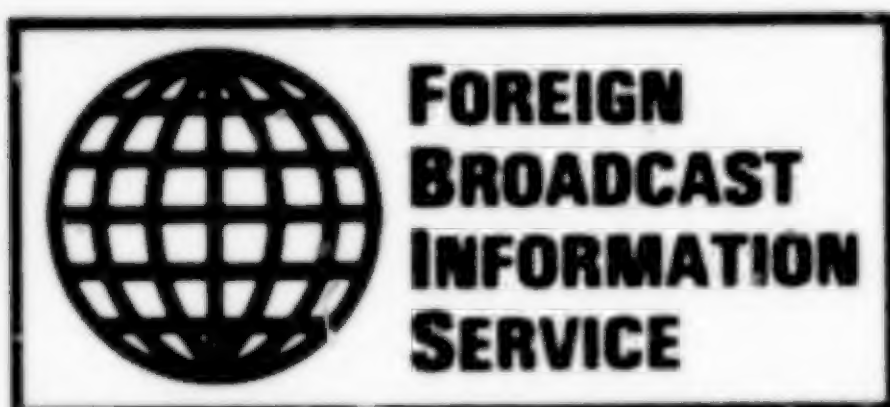




Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

U.S.-Russian Accord Hailed as 'Epoch Making'

OW1706040492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0347 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Japan hailed as "epoch making" Wednesday an agreement by the United States and Russia to slash strategic nuclear arms by two-thirds.

The agreement by the two powers to reduce strategic nuclear warheads to an unexpected 3,000 to 3,500 each, achieved in such a short time, "is epoch making," Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a news conference.

"Japan is highly appreciative," he said.

U.S. President George Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin said in Washington Tuesday they would complete the cutbacks between 2000 and 2003.

Last year the U.S. and the then-Soviet Union agreed in the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) to cut the combined total of 21,000 warheads to roughly 8,500 each by 2000.

Kato said that the government has not yet confirmed whether the two leaders also discussed Japan's dispute with Russia over four Russian-held islands off of Hokkaido.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said prior to Yeltsin's arrival Tuesday that the Japan-Russia territorial issue would be brought up during the two-day summit.

However, a Russian Foreign Ministry official said it was not mentioned during the three sessions of talks held Tuesday.

Bush's Pledge on Territories Dispute Viewed

OW1706073892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0711 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday that U.S. President George Bush assured him last week that Japan's territorial dispute with Russia would be addressed in Bush's talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Miyazawa said he telephoned Bush last Friday and asked him "not to forget" about Japan's dispute with Russia over four islands off of Hokkaido." [quotation marks as received]

Bush, who was on board his jet en route to the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro at the time, said "please don't worry," Miyazawa told a national meeting of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association.

"I don't want this to be handled as our problem alone, but as a common problem of the Group of Seven" major industrialized nations, Miyazawa told the meeting.

Bush did not bring up the territorial dispute in formal talks Tuesday, the first day of Yeltsin's two-day Washington visit, according to a Russian spokesman.

Miyazawa also indicated he expects Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe to hold two more rounds of talks with his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev in August to pave the way for Yeltsin's visit here slated for September.

There has been speculation in political circles that Watanabe, who underwent surgery last week to remove a gallstone, might be relieved of his post prior to Yeltsin's visit.

Earlier, Miyazawa said he would retain Watanabe, 68, at least until the July election for the House of Councillors.

Miyazawa said Russia's willingness to resolve the dispute over the islands "based on law and justice" would be a "test case" of whether Yeltsin has abandoned the expansionist policies of the former Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union occupied the islands at the end of World War II.

Steel Industry Leaders Predict U.S. Complaints

OW1706082592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0734 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—The leader of Japan's steel industry predicted Wednesday U.S. steelmakers may file complaints against foreign rivals over alleged low price imports.

Hiroshi Saito, chairman of the Japan Iron and Steel Federation, told reporters the complaints may be lodged against steel firms of Japan and other major exporting countries in late June.

U.S. steelmakers have complained that they were hurt by imports of low-priced products from Japan and other countries.

"The complaints may be lodged in view of the prevalent circumstances where resumption of negotiations for a multilateral steel trade agreement is difficult," said Saito, who is president of the world's largest steelmaker Nippon Steel Corp.

He said the U.S. move is aimed at concluding an agreement favorable for American steelmakers and boosting steel prices by limiting imports.

According to U.S. Government sources, the U.S. steel industry is strongly critical of subsidies to steelmakers in the European Community, making it doubtful that resumption of negotiations for the multilateral steel agreement is imminent, Saito said.

Steelmakers Agree To Export Pipes to Russia

OW1706092692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Japan's "big four" steel pipe makers have agreed to export 106,000 tons of large-diameter steel pipes to a Russian liquefied natural gas (LNG) company, the president of Nippon Steel Corp. said Wednesday.

The four steelmakers have been so far negotiating with Urengoy Gasprom, Russia's state-run gasoline and petrochemical products company located in Urengoy, western Siberia, the world's largest production center for natural gas, to export some 500,000 tons of LNG steel pipes.

Hiroshi Saito, president of Nippon Steel said, "Although the Japanese companies and Gasprom have been going into details of the business deal, including conditions for letters of credit, the four companies are to start producing for the Russian company sometime between this coming July and the end of the year."

The deal is estimated at 100 million U.S. dollars.

Ministry To Tighten Controls on Copied Products

*OW1706113092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance will tighten controls on the import of imitations of such products as brand-name handbags starting September 1, ministry officials said Wednesday.

The decision is part of a ministry policy aimed at preventing violations of intellectual property rights, which cover such things as trade marks and copyrights, the officials said.

The ministry will simplify procedures for seeking court injunctions to halt imports of copied products and will boost from 58 to 120 the number of customs personnel overseeing such imports, they said.

All imitations found during customs clearance will be confiscated, the officials said.

Miyazawa: Emperor's Visit to China 'Desirable'

*OW1706062892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0614 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday he would like Emperor Akihito to visit China this fall to mark the 20th anniversary of diplomatic relations if national consensus permits.

"I think it is desirable for the emperor to go, but for a while there were various debates in Japan," Miyazawa told a meeting of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association.

"If it is possible, I would like the (emperor's) visit to China to take place with the blessing of the (Japanese) people," he said.

Miyazawa said that China is well aware of opposition to the visit expressed by some quarters of Japanese society, and said the two countries have entered a necessary "cooling off period."

China has repeatedly urged Japan to accept an invitation to Emperor Akihito to visit this fall.

Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin renewed an invitation to Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to visit China before the end of the year when he met Miyazawa in April in Tokyo.

At that time, Miyazawa promised "serious study" on the invitation but gave no clear-cut answer.

Jiang also conveyed the invitation directly when he met the emperor in an audience.

However, some conservative lawmakers of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party are against the proposed visit because of a dispute over sovereignty over islands Japan calls the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea. These lawmakers are also not pleased with Chinese demands for wartime compensation for individuals.

Miyazawa told a group of LDP legislators in April that he does not anticipate Emperor Akihito handling any "political jobs" if the trip goes ahead.

A coalition of conservative citizens' groups also petitioned Miyazawa in May to politely reject the invitation, saying that China will demand an apology for the war fought half a century ago.

The visit was not mentioned during recent high-level meetings with visiting Chinese officials.

Matsushita To Transfer VCR Technology to China

*OW1706115192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Osaka, June 17 KYODO—Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. said Wednesday it has agreed to license technology to China on production of core components for videocassette recorders (VCRs).

The world's largest consumer electronics firm said the agreement was signed in Beijing on Wednesday with the Ministry of Machine-Building and Electronics Industry.

Under the agreement, China will produce the tape driving device consisting of a cylinder head and motor from 1994 at an annual volume of 1.5 million units, Matsushita said.

The company said the products will be supplied to VCR assembly factories in China.

China's annual VCR production now is estimated at 200,000 units, while its imports amount to about 1.4 million units.

Company officials said nearly 70 percent of VCRs manufactured in China will employ Matsushita's technology when the production of tape driving systems goes into full swing.

Miyazawa Urges Easy Credit Stance in Germany

*OW1706110892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa expressed his hope Wednesday for an easy credit stance in Germany, saying high interest rates in the country will have a great impact on other countries, his aides said.

The officials said Miyazawa made the remark in a joint interview with German news media at his official residence Wednesday evening.

"I am fully aware that the German Government maintains interest rates at high levels for fear of upward pressure on prices," he was quoted as saying, adding, "the interest movement in Germany will create a serious impact on interest rates in other countries."

The prime minister described Japan's trade surplus with the European Community as bad and said Japan will continue efforts to narrow the bilateral imbalance in consultation with European Community Commissioner Jacques Delors.

Miyazawa is scheduled to confer with Delors in early July prior to the summit of the Group of Seven economic powers in Munich, Germany.

The group consists of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Says Rates Impeding Recovery

*OW1706113992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa suggested Wednesday that Germany's high interest rates are impeding economic recovery in Europe, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Speaking to German reporters in advance of the July Munich summit of seven major industrialized countries, Miyazawa said Germany's relatively high interest rates are restricting the option of lowering interest rates in other European countries.

Germany has also come under pressure from the United States to ease its monetary policy in order to spur economic growth.

Miyazawa also refuted a suggestion by the reporters that Japan is trying to buy back disputed territories from Russia, saying Bonn adopted a similar strategy to Tokyo's current efforts when it sought unification with the former East Germany, the official said.

In the interview, Miyazawa applauded German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's strategy of providing financial assistance to Moscow in step with progress toward unifying the two Germanys, the official said.

"I don't think East Germany was bought," Miyazawa was quoted as saying, noting the similarity with Japan's stance on withholding full-fledged economic assistance to Moscow pending the resolution of a dispute over four islands off Hokkaido.

Miyazawa said promoting democracy and market economies in the former Soviet Union will be an important focus of the annual economic summit.

"Assistance should be made available to Russia to help it join the rest of the world," he was quoted as saying.

Germany has repeatedly urged Japan to contribute more to the former Soviet Union, saying Bonn has reached its financial limit.

Asked when Japan would seek a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council, Miyazawa replied he does not intend to launch an aggressive campaign to obtain one.

He indicated Japan would prefer to wait until the environment is conducive for its nomination.

The collapse of the Soviet Union has stirred debate that the composition of the five-member Security Council should be reconfigured to better reflect the post-cold war world.

Proposals include seats for Germany and Japan, as well as for major developing nations such as India, Nigeria, and Brazil.

The current permanent members are the victors of World War II—the United States, Russia, China, Britain, and France.

Participating in the July 6-8 meeting will be leaders of the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

Credit Extended To Build Philippine Power Plant

*OW1706080692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0735 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—The Export-Import Bank of Japan said Wednesday it agreed to provide a buyer's credit of up to 18.82 billion yen to National Power Corp. of the Philippines.

The proceeds of the buyer's credit, or export credit by direct lending, will be used for purchasing Japanese goods and services necessary for the construction of a power plant at Limay in Bataan Province of Luzon Island.

The plant is expected to contribute to easing severe electricity shortages in Luzon, which stems from the country's rapid economic growth, officials of the bank said.

The project, financed jointly with official credit agencies of other major countries including the United States, was promoted under a cooperation pact signed in May 1991 between the Export-Import Bank of Japan and its U.S. counterpart, they said.

Defense Agency Cautious About Role in Cambodia*OW1706113592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Top Defense Agency administrative and military officials said Wednesday the agency will do what it can in its operations in the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

They made the remarks two days after the U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill passed through the House of Representatives. Defense Agency chief Sohei Miyashita said the agency will not hastily prepare for operations in Cambodia. "It will steadfastly make preparations for them," he said.

Tetsuya Nishimoto, chief of staff of the Ground Self-Defense Force, said Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel should not be arrogant.

The prudence of the agency is attributed to anxiety and uneasiness of the families of SDF personnel over SDF participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, political analysts said.

Miyashita said the agency will get into trouble if the SDF fails to operate in the UNTAC in Cambodia.

However, he said the agency must prove SDF personnel will not go to Cambodia to carry out the use of force.

Political analysts, commenting on Miyashita's remarks, said the SDF does want to get understanding from the Japanese people over its duties in the country and abroad in the post-cold war era.

Nishimoto said the SDF is now at a crucial moment in its postwar history. The SDF was set up in 1954.

Miyazawa: SDF Cannot Join Multinational Forces*OW1706091892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0848 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday that Self-Defense Forces (SDF) participation in multinational forces like the ones that ejected Iraqi troops from Kuwait would be unconstitutional.

"No matter how many United Nations Security Council resolutions were passed, the purpose of the multinational forces was clearly to wage war against (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn," Miyazawa told a national meeting of the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association.

"Regardless of how many United Nations resolutions exist, it is prohibited by our Constitution to use military force overseas," Miyazawa said.

He said it is hard to conceive of a situation where the overseas use of military power could be construed as self-defense.

Article 9 of the Constitution bans the use of military force to resolve international disputes. This has been widely interpreted as permitting Japan to maintain forces for self-defense purposes only.

Miyazawa's statement came two days after parliament approved a controversial bill allowing SDF participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

An earlier, aborted version of the bill, proposed by former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu shortly after Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, would have allowed the SDF to provide logistical and medical support for multinational forces.

Miyazawa opposed that bill, which was killed after several weeks of deliberation.

He told representatives of leading media organizations that even if Japanese participation in multinational forces only took the form of rearguard activities, it would be difficult to distinguish that from waging war.

The premier stressed, however, it is important for Japan to make the greatest possible contribution to U.N. peacekeeping efforts allowed by the Constitution.

Otherwise, he said it would be difficult to obtain understanding from foreigners on the constitutional restrictions.

The U.N. peacekeeping cooperation law allows Japan to send SDF personnel to perform humanitarian and non-combat tasks in peacekeeping operations.

Further legislation is required before the SDF will be permitted to help monitor cease-fires and engage in other activities with a greater risk of becoming involved in armed skirmishes.

SDP's Tanabe Urges Diet Dissolution, Elections*OW1606145992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1332 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 16 KYODO—Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe called Tuesday for the dissolution of the Diet and general elections at a protest rally against the newly enacted United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Law.

Speaking to a crowd of 12,000, the leader of the largest opposition party accused the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the centrist Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party, which cooperated in passing the controversial bill, "of destroying the foundations of parliamentary democracy."

"We should never forgive the outrage of the three parties," Tanabe said, adding the SDP will stake its fate on fighting the new law.

Tanabe demanded the Diet be dissolved and a general election held to let the people voice their opinions on the matter.

The 137 SDP members of the House of Representatives submitted resignations en masse Monday to protest the bill and abstained from voting on it at a plenary session of the lower house.

Tanabe also vowed efforts to prevent the realization of the dispatch of Japanese ground troops overseas to take part in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Satsuki Eda, representative of the minor opposition United Social Democratic Party (USDP), charged the Constitution is in "danger of dying" with the passage of the law.

He reminded the crowd that June 15 was also the anniversary of the death 32 years ago of a college student who died in the protests against the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty.

The four lower house members of the USDP also submitted resignations.

Following the rally, the protesters marched to the prime minister's official residence and around the Diet neighborhood.

In Osaka, 2,000 labor union members and citizens turned out at Ogimachi Park to protest the new law.

Hidekatsu Yoshii of the Japanese Communist Party said "the 'ox walk' strategy in the Diet was not just for show, each step was devoted to the desire of the people." The ox walk involved bill opponents walking to vote as slowly as possible.

Yoshii called for efforts to firmly oppose the dispatch of Self-Defense Forces overseas.

Opposition Chiefs Ask Acceptance of Resignations

*OW1706021192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0156 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—The leaders of two opposition parties asked House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi on Wednesday for an early decision on accepting the mass resignations of their members from the lower house, party officials said.

Sakurauchi's reply to the request from Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe and United Social Democratic Party (USDP) chief Satsuki Eda was not immediately known.

The SDP, the largest opposition party, and the minority USDP tendered resignation letters from 141 of their members to Sakurauchi on Monday in a bid to force Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to dissolve the lower house for a general election and to block the United Nations peacekeeping cooperation bill.

The SDP holds 137 seats in the 512-seat lower chamber, while the USDP holds four seats.

Their last-ditch attempt to stop the peacekeeping bill failed as the lower house plenary session approved the

controversial bill the same night in the absence of the members of the two parties.

Sakurauchi has not yet decided how to deal with the mass resignations. Resignations of House of Representative members need the approval of a House of Representatives plenary session.

Miyazawa has flatly rejected the SDP's call to dissolve the lower house and hold a general election to put the issue of the peacekeeping bill before the voters.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two opposition parties—Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party—have agreed not to dissolve the lower house, party sources said.

The three parties are reportedly poised to shelve the mass resignations issue until the current Diet session ends on Sunday.

Tanabe reiterated Tuesday his call for the dissolution of the Diet and for a general election at a 12,000-strong protest rally in Tokyo against the newly enacted peacekeeping cooperation law.

Tanabe demanded the Diet be dissolved and a general election held to let the people voice their opinions on the matter.

House Speaker Averts Clear Answer

*OW1706060392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—House of Representatives Speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi averted a clearcut answer Wednesday to a request from two opposition party leaders to expedite the mass resignation of their members from the lower house, party officials said.

Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe and United Social Democratic Party (USDP) chief Satsuki Eda asked Sakurauchi to convene a lower house plenary session as soon as possible to approve the resignation of 141 members of the two parties.

Resignations of House of Representative members need the approval of a House of Representatives plenary session.

The SDP, the No.1 opposition party, and the minority USDP tendered the 141 resignation letters to Sakurauchi on Monday in a bid to block the United Nations peacekeeping cooperation bill and force Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to dissolve the lower house for a general election.

The SDP holds 137 seats in the 512-seat lower chamber, and the USDP holds four seats.

The two party leaders met Sakurauchi for an hour at the speaker's official residence.

During the meeting, Sakurauchi was quoted as saying "I will make the utmost efforts, considering that the current Diet session is near an end."

Sakurauchi told the two leaders that he wishes to return the resignation letters, the officials said. He also expressed the view that the lower house steering committee should take up the matter.

Tanabe strongly urged Sakurauchi to promise action to accept the resignation letters, but Sakurauchi declined to do so, the officials said.

Later the same day, Sadao Yamahana, secretary general of the No. 1 opposition party, said at a press meeting at the Diet building that Sakurauchi should decide how to handle the mass resignation by Friday this week.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two opposition parties—Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP)—are reportedly poised to shelve the mass resignation issue until the current Diet session ends on Sunday.

Prime Minister Miyazawa has flatly rejected the SDP's demand that he dissolve the House of Representatives and call general elections to put the issue of the United Nations peacekeeping bill before the electorate.

The LDP, Komeito, and the DSP have agreed not to dissolve the powerful lower house over the matter, party sources said.

Political observers said that it is very difficult for Sakurauchi to take the initiative to resolve the mass resignation issue.

LDP Decides To Submit Political Reform Bills

OW1706090892 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 17 Jun 92

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] Ruling and opposition parties have already reached an accord on political reforms, including revision of the Political Funds Regulations Act. With regard to political reform, the Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP] Political Reform Headquarters has decided to submit draft political reform bills to the current Diet session. Even if it should prove difficult to have the bills adopted at the current session because of opposition from the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SPDJ] and other opposition parties, the LDP has decided to study the possibility of first submitting the bill and then having the bills carried over to the next session.

At a meeting of LDP Political Reform Headquarters board members held today, views were exchanged on how to proceed with handling the political reform issue in view of the situation where conflict continues between the LDP-Komeito-Democratic Socialist Party coalition and the SDPJ over the adoption of the PKO [UN Peacekeeping Operations] cooperation bill. As a result, board members reached a consensus that, except for the issue of correcting the unbalanced lower house seating distribution on which ruling and opposition parties have not yet begun discussions, draft bills

should be drawn up immediately on various reform plans, including revision of the Public Offices Election Law and the Political Fund Regulation Act, on which an accord has been reached during working-level sessions of the Political Reform Councils of both ruling and opposition parties; and that efforts should be made then to study whether it would be possible to entrust these draft bills to the special committee on revision of the Public Offices Election Law so that the draft bills might be carried over to the next Diet session.

This decision was made based on estimates that it would be rather difficult for the Diet to return to its normal situation by 21 June, which marks the end of the current session, and for the draft political reform bills to be adopted at the current Diet session. In this connection, board members intend to at least draw up draft bills for reform plans agreed on by both the ruling and opposition parties in the hope that these bills will be adopted at the next Diet session. However, the final decision will be made after consultations with party executives.

Shin Kanemaru Says Economy Main Election Issue

OW1706114492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1137 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), on Wednesday called for compilation of a large-scale supplementary state budget this fall to prop up the sagging economy.

Speaking at a meeting of LDP candidates for the election, Kanemaru said, "it will be hard to win in the coming election (in July) unless we show how the LDP is going to tackle the economic slowdown."

In compiling the supplementary budget, top priority should be given to spending on public works, the LDP leader said. But he ruled out any income tax reduction.

Kanemaru went on to say such a budget would help boost domestic demand and reduce the trade surplus with the United States.

U.S. President George Bush urged Japan to take more economic stimulus measures to boost the economy early July when Kanemaru met Bush in Washington.

Mieno Reiterates Adherence to Monetary Policies

OW1706082692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday that neither tumbling business confidence nor sinking stock prices will cause any change in the central bank's monetary policy.

Mieno told a press conference that the central bank's latest "Tankan" quarterly survey of business confidence released last week underscored the bank's view on the

economy, which he says is going through the toughest time in the current adjustment phase.

"I don't think we have to change our economic view," as a result of the survey," he said. [quotation marks as received]

"The Tankan will not cause us to alter our monetary policy stance."

"We will continue watching the effects" of the monetary and fiscal stimulus already applied to the economy, Mieno said.

Mieno also spurned the growing expectations in the market that the central bank will push down short-term interest rates to give a boost to the sagging stock market.

"We have no plan to change the policy for guiding the money market at the moment," he said.

The Tokyo stock market has come under strong downward pressure again, with the key Nikkei Index hitting this year's low on Wednesday.

Mieno refused to comment on the stock prices.

The central bank governor was confident that the recent economic indicators vindicated his diagnosis of the economy.

"The Tankan faithfully reflects our belief that the economy is experiencing the most painful period in the current adjustment cycle," he said.

But he added that the picture depicted by the survey is not all bleak, pointing to the expectations among major manufacturing companies of a decline in the level of their inventories in summer or autumn, as well as the projected upturn in business sentiment.

Mieno said the inventory adjustment, a major brake on the economy, is going as smoothly as he had anticipated, brushing aside concerns about a delay in the process of trimming stock levels.

Mieno reiterated the economy will start picking up to shift to a more balanced growth in the autumn as the inventory adjustment runs its course.

Mieno also said the gross national product figures for the January-March quarter, announced Tuesday, showed the economy is in an adjustment phase.

While corporate capital investment and housing investment declined during the quarter, the economy posted a significant growth, led mainly by domestic demand, showing some firmness of the footing, Mieno said.

While predicting some more months of relatively tough times, Mieno said the economy is "not off the track of shifting to a more balanced growth" following the end of the inventory adjustment.

Asked about the currency market, Mieno said the appreciation of the yen since the meeting at the end of April of the

top economic policy makers of the Group of Seven (G-7) countries represents a move in a desirable direction.

He said the yen should stabilize in an upward direction.

Committee Passes Tougher Nonbank Control Bill

*OW1706032692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0313 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—The committee on finance at the House of Representatives on Wednesday approved a bill to give the Finance Ministry a stronger supervising role on the lending of nonbank financial institutions.

Nonbanks—such as leasing, and consumer-finance companies—are required under the current law to report to the Finance Ministry all the loans and investment they make in connection with land development and real estate-related projects.

The bill is to revise the law and require nonbanks to report their loans and investment in the securities field as well, so as to enable the ministry to monitor their activities more closely.

Following the approval by the lower house committee, the bill is expected to be approved during the current Diet session closing Sunday after being discussed in plenary meetings of both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, the officials said.

Tokyo To Tighten Controls on Chemical Exports

*OW1506120092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1143 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO—The government announced Monday it will tighten export controls on 59 chemicals by requiring exporters to obtain prior government approval to ship such chemicals abroad.

The measures aim to prevent the chemicals from being used for producing drugs or causing environmental pollution, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said.

It said the tighter export controls will take effect on July 1.

The 59 chemicals comprise 37 chemicals designated by the United Nations as harmful to the environment, such as polychlorinated biphenyl, or PCB, and dichlorodiphenyl-trichloro-ethane, or DDT, and 22 chemicals that can be used to make drugs.

Panel Urges State-Run Liquid Gas Storage

*OW1706063192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0620 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Tokyo, June 17 KYODO—Japan should launch state-run storage of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as part of its efforts to ensure a stable supply of the gas, a government advisory panel said Wednesday.

The nation must reserve LPG for emergencies because three-fourths of its entire supply is covered by imports, according to a report by a subcommittee of the Petroleum Council, an advisory body to the minister of international trade and industry.

The report notes Japan's dependence on LPG imports from such Middle East nations as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), about 80 percent of the total imports, which compared with less than 70 percent in the case of petroleum.

Demand for LPG in fiscal 1991 was 19.4 million tons, about 5 percent of Japan's entire demand for primary energy, the report says.

More than 55 percent of the demand was from the public welfare sector, which includes taxis and households, it says.

The report expects a steady increase in demand for LPG, estimated at 22 million tons in fiscal 2000 and 23 million tons in fiscal 2010.

The proposed LPG storage under direct government control is aimed at securing small-lot supplies to many users in the public welfare and smaller business sectors, the report says.

Accordingly, it suggests that consumers and users pay for the public storage, but proposes no specific ways to cover the cost.

The report sets LPG reserve objectives of 1.3 million tons by fiscal 2005 and 1.5 million tons by fiscal 2010, equal to about one-twelfth of the annual imports at that time.

The report proposes locating state storage sites next to private LPG import bases.

It also proposes storing the gas underground, rather than low-temperature tanks above ground, pointing out that the underground storage facilities can store more LPG than those on the ground.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry plans to include appropriation for a survey on the state-run storage proposal in the budget for fiscal 1993, starting next April, a ministry official said. The official said the proposed plan might be set out in fiscal 1994, adding that construction would start around fiscal 1995, taking about five years to complete.

He estimated four to five storages are necessary to attain the reserve target, which he said would cost more than 300 billion yen.

North Korea

Commentary Urges Opening of Sixth JNCC Meeting

SK1706032792 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0025 GMT 17 Jun 92

[NODONG SINMUN 17 Jun commentary: "The Sixth Joint Nuclear Control Commission Meeting Should Be Opened Without Delay"]

[Text] As has already been reported, the South side still remains silent to our side's proposal to hold the sixth North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] meeting on 16 June.

In the fifth North-South JNCC meeting held in Panmunjom on 27 May, our side proposed to the South side to hold the next meeting on 16 June. The South side, however, rejected this. As a result, the two sides decided to set the date of the meeting through the liaison office in Panmunjom.

The 30 May press statement issued by the North side's chairman to the JNCC again presented our side's proposal for holding the sixth JNCC meeting on 16 June.

Even in the 4 June telephone message from Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of the North's side delegation to the North-South high-level talks, to the South Korean prime minister, the South side delegation's senior delegate, our side stated that the South side must respond to our side's proposal for holding the sixth JNCC meeting on 16 June.

The South side, however, still has remained silent to our proposal and has not accepted our requested date for the meeting. As a result, the sixth JNCC meeting was not opened that day.

We cannot but regard this as proof that the South side has no will to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and no intention to conduct nuclear inspections, even though it utters such words as fulfillment of the denuclearization declaration and mutual nuclear inspection.

Moreover, the day after the fifth JNCC meeting, a spokesman for the South side to the North-South high-level talks distorted facts by implying the JNCC meeting had broken up. This makes us suspect whether the South side, disregarding mutual agreements, has an intention to make the JNCC's activities result in nothing. Such doubts are not unfounded if we interpret the South side's remarks and actions by linking them to the positions and attitudes which it assumed at bilateral meetings to resolve the nuclear issue. As shown in the five bilateral meetings and the three contacts of committee members that took place after the North-South JNCC had been inaugurated, our side has made sincere efforts to immediately adopt an agreement for implementing the joint denuclearization declaration and provide reasonable rules of inspection at the

earliest possible date. In this way, we intend to sincerely implement the joint denuclearization declaration and completely achieve the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula without a hitch.

Adopting an agreement to implement the joint [denuclearization] declaration is one the JNCC's most important functions. Only when there is an agreement, can the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula be achieved, fair rules of inspection be adopted, and, moreover, the JNCC smoothly carry out its function of control and implementation in achieving denuclearization.

However, the South side, turning a blind eye to this important issue, has so far come to the table of the talks empty-handed without bringing a draft agreement and has resolutely opposed the inclusion of U.S. nuclear weapons inspection and nuclear bases as a separate clause in the rules of inspection for verifying denuclearization. In selecting inspection sites, the South side opposed our proposal for full and simultaneous inspection based on the principle of simultaneously dispelling doubts. It, rather, put forth the principle of reciprocity, special inspection [tukpyolsachal], inspection of equal numbers of sites, and on even inspection of ordinary military bases. No agreement has been reached on these issues. In this way, the South side built artificial obstacles to discussions. As a result, the sides failed to meet the deadline for finishing discussions of documents, which was the end of May.

By nature, these acts by the South side showed that it intends to avoid the inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea and not to implement the joint denuclearization declaration and achieve denuclearization.

Even without coming to JNCC meetings, the South side is foolishly trying to drag the United States and Japan into this matter to make the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula an international issue. This cannot be interpreted otherwise than trying to build obstacles to achieving denuclearization and adding new difficulties in the Joint Nuclear Control Committee's activities.

The joint denuclearization declaration, which the North and South promised before fellow countrymen, is a common legal document that must be respected most highly and abided by thoroughly. The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is not an optional work but a vital work that is directly linked to the life and death and destiny of the nation. Therefore, no one can avoid this work.

If the South side has any will to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and free the fellow countrymen from nuclear threat, it must participate in the JNCC work with a sincere position and attitude and positively accept the sixth Joint Nuclear Control Commission meeting. We will make every sincere effort to sincerely implement the joint denuclearization declaration, a promise before the fellow countrymen; for the JNCC to fully carry out its functions; and for the sixth JNCC meeting to take place without delay.

IAEA Chief's Report on Nuclear Situation Noted

SK1706044692 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0310 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] The director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] spoke on our implementation of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord at the 10 June unofficial meeting of members of the Board of Governors. Referring to the DPRK's implementation of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord at the meeting, he said:

The DPRK has recently made sincere efforts to implement the safeguards accord. On 9 April, the DPRK approved the Nuclear Safeguards Accord at a Supreme People's Assembly meeting. The DPRK handed in a report on the initial stock of nuclear materials and the specifications of nuclear equipment on 4 May, more than three weeks before the proposed date of 30 May.

The first non-regular inspection took place smoothly a little while ago. In particular, in mid-May, the DPRK invited the agency's delegation composed of two aides, the chief of the Safeguards Department, and myself and showed us not only the facilities listed in the report on the initial stock of nuclear materials but also sites not listed in the report.

During our mid-May visit to the DPRK, we acquired an understanding of this country's plan on nuclear power and especially the system of nuclear fuel circulation. North Korea has chosen to produce electricity to meet the increasing demand of electricity. The first experimental nuclear power plant [sihomwonjaryokpalchon] was built in 1986 and is now operational. We toured the Yongbyon area, over which a clamor had been raised. During this period, we discussed the agency's cooperation with North Korea. In particular, we exchanged views on the possibility of cooperation on the safety of power plants [palchonso]. During our visit, we conveyed the agency's positions to North Korea. North Korea expressed a positive position to further strengthen cooperation with the agency. In particular, it showed the attitude of allowing the agency to see even sites not listed on the initial report. This is an important matter in adhering to the principle of openness.

He also notified the Board of Governors meeting that the first non-regular inspection was conducted of our country.

ROK Envoy's Remarks to IAEA Condemned

SK1706053692 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean "ambassador in charge of atomic energy cooperation" reportedly told the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on June 15 that "North's nuclear development policy and nuclear facilities are wholly intended for the production of nuclear weapons".

The South Korean authorities, urged by their intention to attain sinister political aims, are resorting to such

disinformation while ignoring the peaceful purpose of the North's nuclear development policy at a time when the inspection of the North's nuclear facilities by the IAEA has already been made smoothly and is expected to go ahead in the future.

The South Korean authorities are dead set against the inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea because it is clear that the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases will be uncovered and the "declaration of nuclear absence" made by No Tae-u at the end of last year will turn out to be a lie in case an overall inspection should be made of them.

The South Korean authorities have been trying to find a new excuse for justifying the U.S. policy of turning South Korea into its nuclear base, while keeping its nuclear weapons and bases in hiding, and they are conducting a false propaganda about "development of nuclear weapons" in the North.

If the South Korean authorities really want the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula, they must stop taking issue with the other and promptly take a measure for an inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea.

South Urged To Recognize Reunification Groups

*SK1706110192 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1016 GMT 17 Jun 92*

["They Must Not Put Brake on Pan-National Reunification Movement"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities are these days putting a brake on the movement of grand national march for reunification, while taking issue with us over the nuclear problem and launching a renewed provocative campaign to suspend the implementation of the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation and aggravate the North-South relations.

Hitting hard at them, NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says:

The spokesman of the South side to the North-South high-level talks in a "statement to the North" cried that "a progress in the North-South relations cannot be expected" without "a fundamental solution of the nuclear problem," the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) must be dissolved, the promotion of the formation of the Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghaknyon) and the pan-national rally be renounced and the resumption of the "Team Spirit" depends on this.

This is a deliberate act to reduce the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation to a sheet of paper and bring the North-South relations back to the state of distrust and confrontation before the

adoption of the agreement, an outspoken perfidy to us and an open challenge to the entire fellow countrymen desirous of the reunification of the country.

The South Korean authorities still refuse to abandon the claim of "unified channel of dialogue" and contend that Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon must be dissolved because they are "illegal organisations" and are suppressing the figures and students who are playing the leading part in the preparation for the pan-national rally and grand festival of students for reunification, branding this as "illegal acts".

If the South Korean authorities' words about "harmony" and "unification" are not lies and they have the least intention for reunification, they should recognize Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon, guarantee all conveniences and conditions for a success of the third pan-national rally and the second grand festival of students for reunification and should not delay or suspend the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation.

'Team Spirit' Said To Reverse Reunification

*SK1706051292 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0405 GMT 17 Jun 92*

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—The International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea in a statement issued on June 10 denounced the United States and South Korean authorities for plotting to resume the aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in 1993 at a time when a favorable atmosphere is being created for the solution of the nuclear problem and the realisation of peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

This is a grave act of provocation to regenerate confrontation on the Korean peninsula and reverse the process of peaceful reunification of the country and a wanton challenge to the entire Korean people and peace-loving people of the world, the statement stressed.

It said that the anti-DPRK campaign launched by the United States, South Korea and Japan with regard to the nuclear problem is aimed at inventing a pretext to avert at any cost a fair simultaneous nuclear inspection of the North and the South and an overall inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea.

The scheme of the United States and South Korean authorities to aggravate confrontation again on the Korean peninsula eventually shows that they are attempting to foil the process of peace, detente, reconciliation and reunification which started with the adoption of the historical agreement between the North and the South in December, 1991, the statement stressed.

It called upon the world peace-loving forces to turn out in demand of the discontinuation of all the war moves and of the implementation of the North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearisation, in

demand of the total withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from South Korea and overall inspection of them and in support of the creation of a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean peninsula on the occasion of the June 25-July 27 month of international solidarity with the Korean people.

Daily Warns of Japanese Military Expansion

*SK1706054592 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0427 GMT 17 Jun 92*

["NODONG SINMUN on Overseas Dispatch of 'SDF'."
"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today, commenting on the approval of the "U.N. peacekeeping cooperation bill" by the lower house of Japan, says this means that the "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF], the scion of the "imperial army", is following in its footsteps marked by sanguinary crimes.

In a commentary titled "Crime-Woven History Must Not Be Repeated", the analyst notes:

The passage of the "bill" has provided the Japanese militarist forces with a foothold for accelerating in real earnest military expansion and the conversion of the country into a military power.

Though the "SDF" is holding the U.N. flag in place of the sun flag of the "imperial army" in the past, its real nature cannot change.

Heading for a "military power" and a "political power" commensurate with "economic power", the Japanese authorities seek to gain a bigger say in the international arena and even covet a seat of the permanent member of the U.N. Security Council.

They intend to use the overseas dispatch of the "SDF" under the veil of "international contribution" as a lever to attain this goal.

The peoples of Asia and the rest of the world still remember the brigandish aggression and brutal slaughter committed by the Japanese imperialists in the past under the cloak of "oriental peace" and "prosperity".

It is as clear as noonday what a great danger will be created when the Japanese militarist forces surge out of the small land of Japan into the Asian continent and other wide areas.

If Japan really want to make an "international contribution", she must frankly admit her history of crimes, make a proper apology and compensation and take on a new appearance, cleaning off her nasty smell.

The Korean people, together with other Asian peoples, will watch the future acts of Japan and will never allow the repetition of her crime-woven history.

Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon, Party Leave for Libya

*SK1606112892 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1054 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] Pyongyang June 16 (KCNA)—Kim Tal-hyon, vice-premier and chairman of the External Economic Commission, and his party left here today for Libya.

They were seen off at the airport by Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam and the acting secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in Pyongyang.

South Korea

North Delegates Absent From IAEA Meeting

*SK1706023392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Vienna, June 16 (YONHAP)—North Korea's delegates were still missing on the second day of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors' meeting Tuesday in a move that observers say was calculated to give the impression that there was nothing more to discuss regarding Pyongyang's nuclear development program.

South Korean Ambassador to Austria Yi Si-yong encountered the chief North Korean delegate, O Chang-nim, at a reception on Monday. Yi asked O about North Korea's nuclear program and the IAEA inspections.

The North Korean official answered with a question.

"Everything is going well. Is there anything to discuss?"

North Korea may have expected a welcome at the meeting after it accepted the IAEA inspection, but if it turns up the welcome it gets is unlikely to be friendly.

A number of board members, including Australia, Japan and the United States, are to make strong statements against Pyongyang on Thursday during Agenda 4 discussion after IAEA Director-General Hans Blix reports on the inspection in North Korea.

Australian delegates said they had dug up all the records and would point out every inconsistency in the North Korean attitude.

North Urged To Receive Inspections 'Sincerely'

*SK1706022392 Seoul MBC Television Network
in Korean 2200 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], which is in its third day session of its Board of Governors meeting, will have very important discussions on North Korea's nuclear issue today. Correspondent Kim Yong-il reports:

[Begin recording] [Kim Yong-il] Most of the member states of the IAEA's Board of Governors, which will intensively deal with North Korea's nuclear development issue today, share the same opinion that North Korea should open all its nuclear facilities and sincerely receive nuclear inspections. This is a short cut to enhance its confidence.

In an interview with Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation on 16 June, Hans Blix, director-general of the IAEA, said that of equal importance to IAEA inspection is North Korea's faithful implementation of the North-South declaration of denuclearization, including mutual inspection between North and South Korea, which is conducive to recovering its confidence. The following is an interview with Director-General Hans Blix:

[Kim Yong-il, in English] As you know, the mutual inspection between South Korea and North Korea is very essential for us, and what do you think about that in connection with the IAEA's inspection?

[Hans Blix, in English] Well, I think it is very important for their confidence in the peaceful use of nuclear energy that there be openness about their nuclear programs and the agency's safeguards system which is now entering into the DPRK and have visited all the facilities reported. This is one aspect of one method of achieving transparency and openness and this I think is very welcome. However, this is not the only possible way of showing transparency in the nuclear program, and for that reason, I have said that I hope very much that the transparency will also increase between the DPRK and the Republic of Korea and also vis-a-vis others who are interested—China, Japan, and the United States. All transparencies, openness, and transparencies [as heard] desirable to create confidence.

[Kim Yong-il] Even member states of the IAEA Board of Governors, such as the United States, Japan, and Australia—which support Director-General Hans Blix's opinion—will urge North Korea to dispel suspicion by voluntary opening all of its nuclear facilities and materials, stressing that although it received the tentative inspection [imsisa-chal], which is nothing but an initial procedural step, this has not completely eliminated the concerns and suspicions about North Korea's nuclear facilities.

In this regard, these countries will intensively call for information on whether North Korea will continue to produce plutonium, where plutonium will be used, and on an accurate inventory of plutonium. [end recording]

North May Allow Checks of Unreported Facilities

SK1706005092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0029 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Vienna, June 16 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) indicated Tuesday there is a possibility that it will undertake special inspections on North Korean nuclear facilities that Pyongyang has not reported to the IAEA.

An IAEA official gave the indication after IAEA Director-General Hans Blix reported to the Board of Governors' meeting Tuesday that he had succeeded in obtaining North Korea's agreement to send IAEA officials to visit unreported nuclear facilities in North Korea.

The official, who declined to be identified by name, explained that Blix's report implied that the visit means "special inspections."

For a special inspection, he went on, the IAEA needs information from advanced countries prior to the visit.

In his report, however, Blix said it was impossible to conduct complete inspections of every nuclear facility and materials that were not reported by North Korea. Such problems get more difficult in a country where research for extracting plutonium is considerably advanced, he added.

Blix said problems remained after the IAEA's first ad hoc inspection. The second inspection of North Korean facilities could come as early as in July, he said.

Blix also said it is important to implement mutual and simultaneous inspections by South and North Korea as agreed by the two countries in order to raise the degree of openness for North Korea's nuclear program.

Government May 'Soften' Attitude Toward North

SK1606130392 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
16 Jun 92 p 2

[Correspondent Pae Myong-pok from Vienna]

[Text] Because at the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Board of Governors meeting that opened on 15 June, North Korea's tendency to implement the nuclear safeguards accord appropriately was shown, the government reportedly has decided to soften its attitude, which was characteristically hard-line, toward North Korea and to approach North Korea's nuclear issue with flexibility.

Yi Si-yong, ROK ambassador to Austria, said on 15 June: In light of a report by IAEA Director-General Hans Blix on the results of a nuclear inspection in North Korea, doubts about North Korea's nuclear development appear to be growing high, but I believe it is problematic to maintain a hard-line attitude toward North Korea, ignoring the atmosphere prevailing in the meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors. So, our government has decided to adopt a softer approach on the North Korean question. One way of doing so will be to express our willingness to offer technological assistance to raise the safety level of North Korea's nuclear facilities. Whether or not North Korea's nuclear facilities are safe has recently emerged as a serious problem.

Ambassador Yi said that as doubts about North Korea's nuclear development have not been dissipated, our government will keep making parallel efforts to persuade North Korea into sincerely accepting nuclear inspections in close cooperation with such core allies as the United

States, Japan, and Australia during the current IAEA Board of Governors meeting.

Russian Minister Conditions Nuclear Help to North

SK1606151292 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] North Korea and Cuba have been entirely dependent on the former Soviet Union in terms of both nuclear materials and nuclear technology. Now, however, Russia, the successor to the former Soviet Union, has declared that it will not assist any country with nuclear materials and nuclear technology if it does not use them for peaceful purposes.

Correspondent Kim Son-ki reports from Moscow:

[Begin recording] [Kim Son-ki] The Moscow daily KOMMERSANT said in its 15 June edition that North Korea will survive the infliction of nuclear scrutiny, thereby hinting that North Korea will complete the nuclear development despite international denunciation.

The former Soviet Union, however, was the one and only country assisting North Korea in the area of nuclear physics. Recently, Russia has made clear its basic stance that it will provide North Korea with technical assistance only if the nuclear power is used for peaceful purposes.

In particular, Russia is reported to have emphasized to the North Korean authorities that it would not offer technical assistance that can be incorporated into military purposes.

[Saltykov, Russian minister of science, in Russian with Korean subtitles on screen]

North Korea and Cuba have been receiving special assistance. North Korea, however, is a foreign country to Russia and, therefore, cannot be an exception.

When it comes to the nuclear power field, any country can get assistance.

[Kim Son-ki] (Kruchapov) and (Duvana) are the two most important nuclear research institutes in Russia.

The Soviet Union had trained about 200 North Korean nuclear researchers after helping North Korea build research nuclear reactors in the 1960's. It has been learned that about 10 North Korean nuclear scientists are permanently staying in Russia as nuclear researchers.

Nuclear research institutes in Russia are being converted into ones for industrial purposes. As they are being made accessible to all countries due to extreme financial difficulties, the close cooperative ties between Russia and North Korea in the area of nuclear physics have so changed that they no longer can be hoped for.

This has been Kim Son-ki from Moscow. [end recording]

New Russian Ambassador Panov Arrives 17 Jun

SK1706023292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (YONHAP)—Alexandr Panov, the newly appointed Russian ambassador to South Korea, arrived here Wednesday morning to take up his new post.

Panov, 48, previously director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Pacific and Southeast Asian Affairs Bureau, is a graduate of the Moscow Institute of International Relations and served in the Soviet Embassy in Japan twice and in the Soviet Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

He replaces Oleg Sokolov, who has served here since December 1990 as the first Soviet and then Russian ambassador.

Says Relations To Improve

SK1706072092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0645 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (YONHAP)—Alexandr Panov, Russia's new ambassador to South Korea, said Wednesday that relations between South Korea and Russia would move one step higher to the level of companion ties after Russian President Boris Yeltsin visited Seoul in September.

Panov, in an arrival news conference at Kimpo International Airport, said that the two countries could also push for bilateral military cooperation little by little based on exchanges and contacts among military officials.

The second Russian ambassador to South Korea said military cooperation would not be included in the bilateral friendly and cooperation agreement to be signed during Yeltsin's Korean visit, because it was a complicated issue.

But the two countries could discuss matters of mutual concern such as military cooperation through step-by-step exchanges and contacts between officials of both sides, he said.

Turning to the North Korean nuclear problem, he said Russia was equally as adamant as the United States and South Korea in opposing the proliferation of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula.

Panov pointed out that the joint steps the international community took against North Korean nuclear development made Pyongyang accept inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

He is to return home temporarily around June 26 to arrange Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok's trip to Russia early next month and Yeltsin's trip to Korea in September, a source said.

Editorial Warns Against New Japanese Militarism

SK1706015992 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 17 Jun 92 p 6

[Editorial: "PKO (Peacekeeping Operation) Bill's Passage"]

[Text] The bill to allow Japan to dispatch its military personnel overseas on United Nations peacekeeping missions cleared the final hurdle Monday after months of acrimonious debate both within and without the Diet. The passage is bound to create quite a stir in the world community while provoking repercussions inside Japan. The drastic shift in the status of the Japanese military will mark a major turning point with striking consequences for the evolution of the post-World War II world.

Supporters of the bill would like to look at the highly sensitive bill from the perspective of Japan's international cooperation and contribution to world peace. Having built up the world's most formidable economy and democracy, Japan now wishes to flex political and military muscle commensurate with its economic might. It would like to go beyond what it often calls "checkbook diplomacy" and throw a little weight around on the international scene.

Opponents of the bill look at it as a step toward rebuilding the country as a military power. In particular, the formidable strength of the Japanese Self-Defense Force armed with an impressive array of sophisticated weaponry, as well as its previous record of out-of-control militarism, is sufficient to arouse suspicion and worry among its neighbors.

It is hardly desirable for any nation to indulge itself in reviving the old and dismal specter of the last global war, breathing life back into the atrocities and miseries and triggering fresh confrontations. Deep introspection is required of Japan to remember the lessons learned from past military conquests and the imperial domination it practiced in the earlier part of this century.

Instead, Japan has of late become rather daring in dealing with the issues of the Korean Peninsula, obviously resorting to the leverage of its mighty economic power. In particular, its recent behavior toward North Korea vis-a-vis South Korea could lead to the impression that Japan may be interested in perpetuating the division of the Korean Peninsula for its own good. The Tokyo government's posture in dealing with the issue of "teishintai" [volunteer corps] also smacks of impudence.

Arousing unnecessary suspicion would do no good to Japan and its enduring viability. Japan's bond of amity with its neighbors and industrialized Western nations has been somewhat set back by its economic predominance, causing serious trade friction. The brewing tension, which is certain to be aggravated with the passage of the PKO bill and appears somewhat reminiscent of the pre-Pearl Harbor days, must be quickly ironed out in the interest of a secure world.

The bugle is calling for the Japanese military. But it must not signify a call to march toward the resurgence of militarism. It should mean a grave challenge to Japan as a Pacific and leading power of the new era, where it should shape a modest yet dynamic and positive profile that would not disturb nor alienate its doubtful neighbors and competitive partners.

Uzbek President Arrives for Official Visit

SK1606133392 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network
in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Uzbek President Islam Karimov came to our country today for an official four-day visit. Following his participation in the official welcoming function to be held tomorrow at Chongwadae, President Karimov is expected to discuss with President No Tae-u ways to promote cooperation between the two countries through private talks and expanded summit talks.

To Stress Relations With South

SK1706113792 Seoul YONHAP in English 1035 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—Uzbekistan will chiefly consider advantages and mutual benefit in promoting bilateral ties and is thus likely to emphasize relations with South Korea rather than North Korea, Uzbek President Islam Karimov said Wednesday.

There is plenty of potential for economic cooperation between the two countries by combining Uzbek's abundant natural resources, including gold, and South Korea's development technology, he said in a press conference.

"We are very much interested in South Korea's experience in economic development," Karimov said.

"We will seek relations with nations that will be advantageous to Uzbekistan, nations that bring mutual benefit," the president told the press conference.

"I believe our ties with South Korea will be more advantageous," he said when asked how the Russian republic will pursue its ties with South and North Korea.

Karimov arrived in Seoul Tuesday for a four-day visit. South Korea and Uzbekistan signed four agreements Wednesday on trade, investment, science and technology cooperation and visa issuance.

On repayment of Uzbek's share of economic aid from South Korea, Karimov said his republic will work out the arrangement after the Russian Federation reaches an agreement with South Korea.

Seoul and Moscow agreed on 3 billion U.S. dollar economic aid and carried out 1.8 billion dollars of the aid in cash and export-tied loans.

Uzbekistan received approximately 4 percent of the aid.

"The Russian Federation, which received more than 70 percent of the aid, will have to work out the details with South Korea first. We will settle the repayment arrangement with the federation afterwards," Karimov said.

Uzbekistan has some 200,000 Korean residents living in the republic, nearly half of the entire Korean population in Russia, according to Karimov.

"Koreans in Uzbekistan are the seventh largest minority among some 120 racial groups," he said.

"There have been reports about establishing a special zone for Korean residents in Russia's Far East, but the Korean people in Uzbekistan have no intention of moving there," said Karimov.

Signs Cooperation Accord

SK1706032492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0301 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and Uzbek President Islam Karimov, pledging to strengthen friendly ties and cooperation, Wednesday signed a "Declaration on Principles of Relations and Cooperation."

The declaration says the two countries will develop friendship based on the U.N. Charter, cherishing sovereign equality, respect for territorial integrity and political independence, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and peaceful settlement of disputes.

It also says the two countries will expedite contacts between their peoples and social organizations, and business communities to develop extensive cooperation in the areas of industry, investment, trade, exploitation of natural resources, science, technology, and transport.

The two countries will promote cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, education, mass media, sports and tourism, deepening cultural ties through exchanges of scholars and students.

Recognizing that a guarantee of the rights of minorities is a basic element for a stable world community, the two countries will take the appropriate measures necessary for the protection of the interests and rights of minorities in their territories in accordance with the relevant international conventions, the declaration says.

In his summit with No, Karimov said his government supported South Korean efforts to build mutual confidence on the Korean peninsula through direct dialogue with North Korea and to realize peaceful reunification of the peninsula through stepped-up exchanges and cooperation.

No explained inter-Korean problems to Karimov and said that South and North Korea should carry out inspections of each other's nuclear and military facilities on top of international inspections in North Korea.

Expressing support for Uzbekistan's efforts for economic and political reforms, No asked Karimov to pay special

attention to ethnic Koreans in his country, who number over 200,000. There are some 400,000 ethnic Koreans in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Karimov requested Korea to expand economic cooperation with Uzbekistan and to provide medicines.

The two presidents agreed on Korea's training of Uzbek technicians and its dispatch of an education official to the Korean education center in Tashkent, opened last month.

Karimov arrived here Tuesday. He was to attend an official dinner hosted by No on Wednesday. After touring industrial facilities, the Uzbek leader will leave here on Friday.

The two countries established diplomatic relations in January.

Trade, Investment Accords Signed

SK1706084492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0819 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Uzbekistan signed four agreements Wednesday granting most-favored-nation (MFN) status in trade and investment, promoting technological cooperation and simplifying visa issuance.

The trade agreement gives MFN status in customs tariffs, account settlement, quantity control and import permits. It guarantees most-favored property protection for businessmen in each other's country.

The four agreements were signed during Uzbek President Islam Karimov's visit by Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and his Uzbek counterpart, Ubaidulla Abdurrazzakov.

The agreement on investment promotion and protection gives MFN status for investors and their profits.

Korea and Uzbekistan agreed to establish a joint committee in their agreement on scientific and technological cooperation. The joint committee will arrange seminars and exchange of scientists and research information.

The two countries also agreed to give multiple-entry visas to resident businessmen and journalists, and to simplify visa application procedures.

The accords are the first between South Korea and a member of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Kim Tae-chung Cites Role of U.S. Troops

SK1706064092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0559 GMT
17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung, presidential candidate of the main opposition Democratic Party, said Wednesday that a continued American

presence on the Korean peninsula was a vital strategic factor in securing stability and a balance of military power in East Asia.

Speaking to foreign correspondents in Seoul, Kim said he did not believe the importance of national security had diminished at all, despite recent developments between South and North Korea.

"Unless and until there is a truly reliable structure of peaceful coexistence with North Korea, we cannot and shall not diminish our defense capability," Kim said.

At the same time, in view of the rising specter of neighboring countries' great military power status, Kim said, Korea's defense posture must transcend the narrow confines of an anti-North Korea security orientation.

In this context, Kim said, U.S. troops in South Korea, the main deterrent against North Korean invasion, would now play a new and positive role in East Asia.

Kim, declaring that national reunification was just a matter of time, said that "the times and conditions are favorable to our goal" but "we must go slowly and carefully step by step."

Only then could Korea attain national unity without undesirable results, he said.

Kim charged that Korea's economic crisis was the result of the mistaken policies of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

"If we make the further mistake of entrusting our affairs to the DLP (ruling Democratic Liberal Party) for another five years, we will not be able to see sound development of our economy," he said.

Kim said an administration led by him would maintain price stability and strengthen technological competitiveness. It would also curb inflation by all means, reduce government spending, stabilize the money supply and implement the so-called real-name financial system to prevent real estate speculation.

Above all, Kim said, he would bring inflation under 3 percent a year.

Kim said his government would also work for reconciliation and harmony between the military and civilian populations, and oppose reprisals of any kind. For that end, he would form a pan-national cabinet in which people from all walks of life and levels, and from all regions took part.

Document Says Kim Il-song Never Fought in War

SK1506113292 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 15 Jun 92 p 1

[Report by Kim Kuk-hu from Moscow]

[Text] CHUNGANG ILBO has exclusively obtained a secret document and pictures from the former Soviet Union's Defense Ministry that officially confirm North

Korea's Kim Il-song did not participate in the anti-Japanese war and that he was assigned to the Soviet Army's 88th special sharp-shooting patrol brigade (the brigade commander was a Chinese officer, Senior Colonel Zhou Baozhong) for three years before liberation.

CHUNGANG ILBO recently obtained the secret document from Senior Colonel (Georgiy Kusmitz Platonikov), a senior researcher at the Military Institute of the former Soviet Union's Defense Ministry. The document is a copy of Chapter 13, file six, on the 88th special sharp-shooting patrol brigade from the archives and documents section of the former Soviet Union's Defense Ministry.

Scholars have revealed that Kim Il-song was assigned to the 88th brigade, but this fact has been denied in Kim Il-song's biographical writings, revolutionary history, and in modern history textbooks in North Korean schools. One textbook states that General Kim Il-song, who was commanding the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in Manchuria, conveyed to Army units on 9 August 1945 the order for an all-out attack to liberate the fatherland. Thus, the soldiers advanced to Unggi, Najin, and Chongjin of North Hamgyong Province and liberated the fatherland.

The secret document is in the form of a report to Marshal Vasilyevskiy, commander-in-chief of the Soviet Union's Far East Army, from Zhou Baozhong, brigade commander of the 88th patrol, on 24 August 1945, when the anti-Japanese war came to an end. The 88th patrol brigade was established by direct orders from Generalissimo Stalin in June 1942 to prepare for the anti-Japanese war. The brigade consisted of 550 soldiers—400 Chinese and Koreans and 150 Russians and Nanai tribesmen. It was also revealed that the military committee of the Soviet Far East Army directly led this brigade.

The document also records that Captain Kim Il-song, battalion commander, joined the Chinese Communist Party in 1932; that he only graduated from middle school; and that he was second in charge of the Pyongyang garrison headquarters of the Soviet Army.

Parties To Sue Over Election, Assembly Issues

SK1706081392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0722 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 17 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] decided Wednesday to seek a judgement from the Constitution Court on the postponement of local elections by the government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP].

DP officials said the suit will be filed against the president and the entire Cabinet Saturday in the name of those who had been preparing for the elections and suffered due to the postponement.

In a tit-for-tat move, the ruling party will bring a suit in the Constitution Court against opposition parties for violating the National Assembly Law, which requires the

Assembly to hold its first session within 28 days of its inauguration. The 14th National Assembly was inaugurated May 30.

The ruling party held a public relations meeting of local chapters and decided to publicize the "unavoidability" of the postponement of elections for provincial governors and city mayors this year because of the economic and social burden.

The current election law, however, requires the government to hold the local elections before June 30 after posting the public notice for them by June 12. The government and the ruling party passed the deadline of the public posting, insisting that the elections be postponed until 1995.

The opposition parties, especially the DP, want to hold the elections this year, possibly with the presidential election in December at the latest. They refuse to attend the National Assembly unless the ruling party agrees to their proposal on the local elections.

The DP plans to wind up the political debates and public hearings it has been holding in 11 major cities since last week and convene a meeting of party representatives Friday to discuss party policy on the issue.

The DLP, on its part, has been pressing the opposition parties to open the Assembly first, then discuss the election issue in the Assembly. The opposition parties believe, however, there is a chance for the DLP to ram a revised election bill through the assembly, which is controlled by the ruling party.

The DLP, meanwhile, held meetings of four senior party officials and the Central Executive Council Wednesday and decided to open the National Assembly within 28 days of its inauguration.

There has been speculation that the DLP might convene the inaugural session unilaterally if the opposition parties are adamant in their rejection.

But Secretary-General Kim Yong-ku said Wednesday that though there were only four more days to go, the DLP was not studying the possibility of holding the opening session of the Assembly either unilaterally or with a minor opposition party.

Kim said he still expected a compromise at the continuing meetings of party secretaries-general or three senior officials.

Naturally, therefore, a meeting of top party leaders was not being contemplated at the present time, Kim said.

Burma**Army Said Redeployed Due to 'Civil Unrest'**

*BK1606160292 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network
in English 1530 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] Myanmar [Burma] has made changes in troop deployment along the borders with its neighbors, including Bangladesh and India. Diplomatic sources believe that a reallocation of the Army is linked to civil unrest in the country.

Oil Sharing Contract Signed With U.S. Companies

*BK1706093392 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] A production sharing contract between the Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy and the (Trens) International, Bermuda Limited of the USA to restore old oilfields in Letpando and Tuywintaung areas, was signed at 0930 today at the Ministry of Energy.

U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, first delivered an opening speech. U Aung Min, managing director of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and Mr. (J. C. Venji), president of the (Trens) International, Bermuda Limited, also spoke at the ceremony.

The contract was signed by U Aung Min, managing director of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and Mr. (J. C. Venji), president of the (Trens) International, Bermuda Limited. The ceremony ended after U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, presented project permit issued by the Union of Myanmar Investment Commission and Special Notification Nos. 1/92 and 2/92 of the Ministry of Energy dated 16 June 1992 to the president of the (Trens) International, Bermuda Limited.

Similarly, a production sharing contract between the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy and Apache Oil, Myanmar Incorporated of the U.S. to restore old oilfields and explore natural gas in Eastern Prome and Phyanu-Paukaung areas was signed at 1100 today at the Ministry of Energy.

U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, first delivered an opening speech. U Aung Min, managing director of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and Mr. (B. M. Romani), president of Apache Oil, Myanmar Incorporated also spoke at the ceremony.

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The ceremony ended after U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, presented project permit issued by the Union of Myanmar Investment Commission and Special

Notifications Nos. 3/92 and 4/92 dated 16 June 1992 were presented to the president of Apache Oil, Myanmar Incorporated.

In the evening, U Khin Maung Thein, minister of energy, hosted a dinner in honor of the presidents and delegations of the (Trens) International, Bermuda Limited and Apache Oil, Myanmar Incorporated of the U.S. at the Inya Lake Hotel.

Details of Telecommunications Projects Cited

*BK1606071092 Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S
DAILY in English 17 May 92 p 3*

[Article: "World Telecommunications Day and Prospects of Myanmar (Burma) Telecomms" by Shwehintha]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Since the time of its independence, Myanmar [Burma] has been a member country of the ITU [International Telecommunications Union]. It can retain its good historic career by energetic participation in the activities of the Union and also in those of Asian and Pacific Telecommunity.

Myanmar Telecomm and its Prospects

As actively participated in the international as well as regional organizations, Myanmar constantly developed its telecomm services. Two major country projects on the development of telecomm services had successfully been implemented.

In continuation of the previous projects some more have been on-going. In the case of domestic services, introduction of domestic satellite communication system and expansion of automatic and manual exchanges together with those of long distance and local communications networks and installation of new UHF radio stations and new telephone exchanges have been built up with sustained effort. In some towns, new telephone exchanges and expansion of indicators in the present ones have, under the supervision of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, been installed at self-supporting basis by the enthusiastic local inhabitants. An optical fibre cable—the very first one, of course, has been linked between Taukkyan and Mingaladon.

In the case of international communication, total number of telecommunication gateways has already been doubled. As a special programme, a new telephone service has been provided for communication between interior part of Myanmar and the ships that come into Myanmar territory waters.

Early this year, Ministry of Communication, Posts and Telegraphs was so formed as to more effectively conduct the nation's development activities in communication sector. It is, therefore, hoped that both domestic and international telecom services will, as has been accelerated, be in the rapid progress.

With this sincere hope, the 24th World Telecomm Day which falls on 17 May is hailed with great zeal.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Restraint Urged in Comments on Singapore Issues

BK1706092692 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES
in English 16 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] Johor Baharu, Mon.—Malaysian and Singapore leaders should exercise restraint and not make provocative statements when commenting on issues affecting the two countries, Finance Minister Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

They should not come out with emotional and irresponsible outbursts which might undermine the goodwill enjoyed by the two close neighbours, Anwar said.

He was speaking to reporters after visiting the Tanjung Puteri Complex here. He was given a briefing on the complex's operations by Johor Customs Director Frankie Nyombui and other senior officials.

Anwar said petty issues tend to crop up from time to time but should not be allowed to escalate and affect two-way relations. When these issues arise, they should be referred to the relevant authorities quickly so that an amicable solution could be found.

Malaysia and Singapore have close links in many areas. Therefore, the existing cooperation must be allowed to grow further for mutual benefit, he stressed.

Singapore

SAF To Improve Military Ties With Indonesia

BK1706102892 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES
in English 17 Jun 92 p 16

[By Paul Jacob]

[Text] Jakarta—Singapore and Indonesia could continue to enjoy firm military ties because of the investment which both sides had made to develop and strengthen the ties between the younger-generation officer corps, Chief Defence Forces Lieutenant-General Winston Choo said.

He said political leaders and those in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) and Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) knew that the foundations for long-term ties had to be built on more than just the strength of personal ties between the top military leaders.

"If one wants to develop a lasting relationship it has to be based on the people who come in the future. If they get to know each other better, then the relationship will be sustained," he said in an interview here yesterday.

"We have to a large extent been successful in getting the middle and lower levels of officers to meet each other, get to know one another, co-operate and work together...."

This was a view shared largely by ABRI chief Try Sutrisno and Defence and Security Minister Benny Murdani during discussions with Lt-Gen Choo, who was here on a two-day farewell visit before stepping down as SAF chief at the end of this month.

"In my conversations with both men, I got a very strong impression that they see the importance of a close military relationship and they will continue to promote this notwithstanding who the Chief of Defence Forces in Singapore is," he said. He credited both men with playing leading roles in the strengthening of bilateral ties.

Major-General Ng Jui Peng, the present Chief of Army, who will succeed Lt-Gen Cho on July 1, visited Indonesia earlier this month.

Lt-Gen Choo said that just as the transfer of ABRI command from Mr Murdani to Gen Try in 1988 did not affect the relationship between the two armed forces, the change at the helm of the SAF would see this maintained.

"Middle and lower ranking SAF and ABRI officers have seen us work together... and this has, to some degree, set an example of sorts for them. The relationship in the future is going to be good also because they have now a greater understanding and knowledge of each other," he said.

He said that the suspicions which characterised bilateral relations just after Singapore's independence in 1965 no longer existed. Both sides have since been able to build up ties by focusing on areas of co-operation.

"Amongst the closest of friends, neighbours and even brothers, there will always be areas of disagreement. But what is important is that we did not allow the areas of contention to overwhelm the relationship, and instead looked to areas where we agreed on and worked on them," he said.

He said this general principle behind the SAF's ties with ABRI had been followed in its dealings with fellow Asean member countries.

"It is easier with our Asean partners because we are geographically closer. We see the importance of stability of the region because we share the same region," he said, adding that ties had not been affected by Singapore's offer of facilities to US navy ships.

"We see that for the immediate future, a US presence in the region is a stabilising factor and what Singapore wants is stability in the region.... We try to promote our view with our Asean neighbours and of course, each country has its own views and perceptions," he said.

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Meets Thai Foreign Minister 16 Jun

*BK1706051292 Phnom Penh SPK in English
0419 GMT 17 Jun 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 17—Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Khmer Rouge Leader Khieu Samphan held talks in Bangkok Tuesday [16 June] amid international calls on Thailand to pressure the faction to fall in line with Cambodia's peace process, AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] reports.

Khieu Samphan made no statement to reporters as he arrived at the Foreign Ministry for the meeting which took place as fighting between Khmer Rouge guerrillas and Phnom Penh government forces raged in northern Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge, the most notorious guerrilla group aligned against Phnom Penh government during the Cambodian war, received massive assistance from China and Thailand during the conflict.

The war formally came to an end in October last year when Cambodia's rival factions signed a United Nations-brokered peace accord in Paris.

But the Khmer Rouge have refused to take part in phase two of the peace accord which opened Saturday [13 June], under which UN forces are to disarm most of the rival forces.

The faction says it cannot cooperate because Vietnamese troops are still in Cambodia. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) says there is no evidence to support the claim.

Diplomats at the UN headquarters in New York have said that pressure could be brought to bear on the Khmer Rouge, possibly by asking the Thai Government to seal Thailand's border with Cambodia to curb or prevent close cooperation between the Khmer Rouge and the Thai military.

UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi confirmed Tuesday [16 June] that Phnom Penh government troops had launched an offensive against the Khmer Rouge in northern Cambodia.

Hor Namhong Warns KR To Comply With Plan

*BK1706121092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh, June 17 (AFP)—Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Wednesday Cambodia peace treaty could be rewritten to exclude the Khmer Rouge [KR] unless they stopped fighting and started obeying the United Nations.

Hor Namhong said rewriting the peace accords, signed in October last year and witnessed by the international community, would only be a worst-case scenario.

"I think we should do everything to keep them in the peace process," he said. "If finally they continue to refuse (the principals of the peace accords), the co-chairmen of the Paris conference should convene a new meeting of the signatories of the Paris conference in order to take measures," the foreign minister said.

Those measures mean excluding the KR from any part in a future government of Cambodia, he said. The Paris peace accords were the product of years of negotiation and allow the KR, along with two other resistance factions, to take part in an administrative body controlled by the United Nations.

The foreign minister also said he wants the U.N. peace-keeping operation's mandate expanded to a peace-making operation in order to force the KR to comply with the peace accords, but he did not specifically say which actions he would like the U.N. peacekeepers to take.

"We have to force them to comply," he said. "For the KR, to take power in Cambodia is their main objective. To do so they will not abandon the use of military means in order to come back to power."

The KR have refused to cooperate with peace agreements that require them to go to U.N. supervised sites and lay down their weapons. They have been warring with the Phnom Penh forces in central Kompong Thom Province since January, with the heaviest skirmishes coming in recent days.

More on Phnom Penh Offensive Against Khmer Rouge

'Violent Acts' Described

*BK1706085792 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0402 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Phnom Penh 17 Jun (SPK)—Troops of the Phnom Penh government on Sunday [14 June] launched a counter-offensive against the Khmer Rouge in the north of the country with heavy artillery fire, announced AFP quoting Western diplomatic sources in the Cambodian capital.

The Phnom Penh Army pounded positions 50 km north of Kompong Thom which the Khmer Rouge occupied during their offensive in recent weeks, specified the sources.

An official source of the Phnom Penh regime told AFP on Monday that the Phnom Penh troops are preparing a counter-offensive against the Khmer Rouge, the main component of the opposing Cambodian Army.

"These were the most violent acts of war in many months", said a diplomat, who has followed military activities in Cambodia, of this artillery fire.

"It is logical to think that the aim of the counter-offensive of the Phnom Penh Army is to retake positions occupied by the Khmer Rouge over the past few months", this expert said.

"We are ready for this offensive" said the Cambodian source who specified that this "operation is aimed at retaking Route 12 north of Kompong Thom.

"We will not attack without the green light from the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]," added this source however.

"They had this green light," affirmed a Western diplomat.

Over the past few weeks Kompong Thom Province and that of Preah Vihear, further north, have been under frequent attacks by Khmer Rouge against the government forces.

Phnom Penh counter-offensive took place 24 hours following attacks by the Khmer Rouge on strategically important Route 12, which Phnom Penh troops were demining, specified the Cambodian source.

"For us this is exercising our right to self-defense which is granted to us before the start of the peace plan's second phase," added the source.

Before the start of the peace plan's second phase on Saturday UNTAC officials many times affirmed that the parties which take part in the peace plan would have the right to self-defense against the Khmer Rouge, who refused to adhere to this essential phase of the plan.

Fighting Expected To Worsen

BK1706091792 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] A UN official yesterday said renewed fighting between troops of the Khmer Rouge and those of the communist Phnom Penh regime in northern Cambodia could worsen quickly.

A UN source reports that at least 10 soldiers of the Phnom Penh regime were killed or wounded by mines planted by the Khmer Rouge forces along national Route 12, which is the northern border between Preah Vihear and Kompong Thom Provinces. A UN military officer also said various clashes near Rovieng District in Kompong Thom Province, about 200 km north of Phnom Penh, have wounded at least two persons. He also said the latest cease-fire violations are light with sporadic fighting, but warned that this could quickly worsen.

Delay in UN Operations Feared

OW1706023792 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 16 Jun 92

[From the "News 21" Program]

[Text] The Pol Pot faction, which refuses to submit to demobilization in Cambodia, is intensifying its offensive. Special Representative Akashi of UNTAC, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, said today that as long as the Pol Pot faction continues its offensive, the

other factions also have the right to self-defense. He indicated that under the present circumstances, a certain degree of hostilities may be unavoidable.

This view was given in answer to questions from reporters at the airport before Akashi flew from Phnom Penh to Tokyo to attend the ministerial conference on Cambodian reconstruction opening on 20 June.

Akashi stated that the collapse of the military balance between the Pol Pot faction, which refuses demobilization, and the other three factions, which agree to demobilization, should be avoided. He said that as long as the Pol Pot faction continues its offensive, the other factions have the right to defend themselves, thus expressing the view that fighting between the Pol Pot faction and the Phnom Penh government troops will be unavoidable for the time being.

Since the demobilization of the various factions started on 13 June in Cambodia, the Pol Pot faction has been intensifying its offensive, centering on Kompong Som city in the north. In response to this, the Phnom Penh government forces started counterattacks yesterday and reportedly succeeded in recapturing several towns after fierce fighting.

In view of the above, it is feared that the Pol Pot faction's refusal to undergo demobilization and the continuing hostilities may delay the schedule of UN peacekeeping operations.

Akashi on Right of Self-Defense

BK1706061892 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0408 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 17 June (SPK)—Mr. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], confirmed on 16 June that Phnom Penh forces had launched an offensive against the Khmer Rouge in the north of the country.

The UNTAC head underlined that the Phnom Penh forces were exercising their right to self-defense as recognized by the United Nations prior to the start of phase two to which the Khmer Rouge refused to adhere.

"The situation is very tense but still not yet critical," the UNTAC head told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE [AFP] before his departure from Phnom Penh for Japan where he is to attend an international conference on reconstruction of Cambodia next week.

Diplomatic sources in Phnom Penh said on 15 June that government troops had launched an offensive against the Khmer Rouge forces in the provinces of Kompong Thom and Preah Vihear in the north of the country.

According to the sources, the Phnom Penh troops' main objective is to retake Route 12 in the north of the Kompong Thom provincial town which had been cut by the Khmer Rouge in numerous attacks over recent months.

"It is necessary to maintain military equilibrium on the battlefield," Akashi said, and "when the Khmer Rouge attack the other three factions, they have the right to defend themselves." "The operations in the north fall into this category," he added.

A diplomat said on 15 June that the fighting was the fiercest in many months.

The attack on the government troops began with violent shellings at the end of last week when the second phase was launched to regroup, disarm, and demobilize the four Cambodian factions by at least 70 percent in the run-up to elections in April or May 1993.

The Phnom Penh government and the two noncommunist opposition factions, including the Sihanoukist FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the movement of former Prime Minister Son Sann, have agreed to begin this crucial phase of the peace plan even without the Khmer Rouge.

"We do not want the three factions which are in cooperation with the UNTAC to find themselves in a disadvantaged position," Akashi pointed out.

The Khmer Rouge chiefly argue that the UNTAC should beforehand verify the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

The announcement by Hanoi that it completely withdrew its ground forces in September 1989 remains the Khmer Rouge's bone of contention.

KPNLF May Switch Allegiance

*BK1706090692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, June 17 (AFP)—One of the resistance factions allied with the Khmer Rouge in the civil war against the Phnom Penh government said Wednesday it would switch allegiance and fight with the government if the peace process breaks down.

The faction loyal to former Cambodian prime minister Son Sann, the Khmer People's [National] Liberation Front (KPNLF), will take up arms against the Khmer Rouge unless they cooperate with the United Nations peacekeeping operation, Ieng Muli, the group's second-in-command, told AFP.

"If the Khmer Rouge does not abide by the peace accords, that means the KPNLF has to take action and to fight against the Khmer Rouge," he said.

Violence should only be the last resort if all influence on the Khmer Rouge fails and peace breaks down, he said.

"In the meantime we have to put pressure on them, and that means first we have to reverse the alliance, to go with the (Phnom Penh government)," Ieng Muli said.

"This is the most effective pressure" to get the Khmer Rouge to comply. The Khmer Rouge have refused to cooperate with peace agreements that require them to go to U.N. supervised sites and lay down their weapons.

They have been warring with the Phnom Penh forces in central Kompong Thom Province since January, with the heaviest skirmishes coming in recent days.

U.N. military commander General John Sanderson flew to the province Wednesday for talks, although there was no immediate word on their outcome.

All four of Cambodia's warring factions—numbering 200,000 armed troops—are required to turn in their arms to the United Nations, and 70 percent of them are to be dismissed from military service.

Only about 4,500 soldiers, mostly from the Phnom Penh government, have turned up for the demobilization and disarmament process, U.N. officials have said.

Ieng Muli said only about 300 KPNLF soldiers remain ready for combat, in the central provinces of Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham, and they could be called to fight the Khmer Rouge at any moment.

"It's too premature to envisage this action, and we continue to appeal to the Khmer Rouge to comply with the United Nations," he said.

Most of the KPNLF forces have demobilized themselves, walking away from their units and back to their families waiting in Thai refugee camps for resettlement in Cambodia.

"We are trying to invite them to join the cantonment to benefit from the U.N. demobilization plan," he said.

The switch in alliances is in line with apparent U.S. Government policy in Cambodia. While it backed the resistance coalition and supplied the KPNLF during the 13 year civil war, it has since had a rapprochement with the Phnom Penh government.

Prime Minister Hun Sen went to Washington earlier this year where he was feted by top U.S. Administration officials and received favorably in the American press, which forgave his former links to the Khmer Rouge. Washington had previously isolated the Phnom Penh government, which was installed by a Vietnamese invasion in 1979.

"In the long period, the Phnom Penh government will get the international recognition," Ieng Muli said, explaining the KPNLF shift as a move independent of influence from foreign powers.

The Phnom Penh leaders are widely expected to win in the U.N.-run elections scheduled for a year from now.

UNTAC Chief Supervises Naval Troop Cantonment

*BK1706094992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Summary] On 13 June at the Tonle Sap Lake Naval Base, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] supervised the cantonment of naval units 90 and 96.

His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, UNTAC chief, was present. He was accompanied by H.E. General Tie Banh, State of Cambodia's defense minister; General Ke Kimyan, State of Cambodia's first deputy defense minister; Lieutenant General John Sanderson, UNTAC military commander; General Pan Thai, representative of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front; Lieutenant General Kruoch Yoeum, representative of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Army; leading officials of the State of Cambodia's Defense Ministry; diplomats; and many UNTAC soldiers.

Units 90 and 96 consist of two offices and seven battalions with 2,334 soldiers, including 371 officers and 1,963 troops. Their armament includes 32 assorted vessels, seven tanks, 1,180 assorted weapons, and 499,051 rounds of ammunition.

On the first day of the second phase of the cease-fire, the units made advance preparations for the cantonment of 1,200 troops and assorted materiel.

Circular Issued on Army Day Celebration

*BK1706053192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon
Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Circular from the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee on the celebration of the 41st anniversary of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and the army-people solidarity day; dated 12 June—read by announcer]

[Text] This year we mark the 41st anniversary of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] and the Army-people solidarity day in a situation where the Paris 23 October 1991 accord is being implemented and at a time when the entire Cambodian People's Party [CPP], the people, and the Armed Forces are resolved to painstakingly carry on the implementation of the CPP's political program. In view of developments, this year's anniversary of the CPAF and the Army-people solidarity day should be successfully organized and celebrated in accordance with the following objective and requests:

I. Objective and requests:

1. To recall the glorious tradition of the Isarak Army [Cambodian resistance forces fighting French colonialists in 1960's]—the CPAF's genesis—in order to make our cadres, party members, combatants, and people

more clearly understand their duties in this new stage, thereby motivating them to more zealously display their efforts, for the cause of the society and nation, in effectively protecting the people's sacred interests and blocking, at all costs, the return of the disaster of the past. Under all circumstances, the CPAF, which ever remain the forefront forces loyal to the people in the defense of social gains, should uphold the feelings and relations of solidarity and unity between the Army and people and vice versa.

2. The CPAF should heighten the confidence of the cadres, combatants, and people in the CPP's political program and should also become involved in carrying out the political tasks defined by our party in this stage of implementing the Paris accord.

II. Organization and implementation:

1. Organization of meetings and get-togethers: In Phnom Penh, the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] should cooperate with the Defense and Culture Ministries as well as with Phnom Penh city to organize a meeting on 19 June 1992 and to lay wreaths at the War Memorial. Meetings and get-togethers should also be arranged at services and offices in various provinces, cities, districts, and wards to discuss the significance, meaning, and spirit of the anniversary celebration. Buddhist monks; representatives of the party, Army, and social services; senior citizens, and outstanding families and persons should be invited to meetings organized in every locality. Those meetings should focus attention on issues in all fields, especially political quality, the CPAF combatants' living conditions, and relations between the Army and people in providing assistance to each other in keeping with cable No. 11 issued on 1 June 1992 by the standing committee of the CPP Central Committee. On 19 June 1992, local units in various districts, provinces, and cities where fallen combatants' graves are located should be organized to clean up and lay wreaths at those sites according to Buddhist tradition.

2. Various institutions of the CPP and KUFNCD and state authorities of the State of Cambodia [SOC] in Phnom Penh, provinces, and cities should send their representatives to visit, cadres, and combatants in diverse units; wounded, disabled, and sick cadres; combatants at various hospitals; and families of fallen combatants and outstanding families, and give them greetings cards and mementos. The KUFNCD National Council should cooperate with the Defense and Social Affairs Ministries to assist delegations of the CPP and the SOC Government in their visits to various localities.

3. Services and offices in provinces and cities that are allied with different armed units should send their representatives to visit those units and should also create favorable conditions for serving as material and moral encouragement to the cadres and combatants of those units.

4. All sectors and levels should mobilize efforts to maintain security for the people and promote and expand the cadres' and combatants' knowledge of the CPP's political program.

5. The Ministry of Information and Press should advise propaganda networks under its auspices to do their utmost to energetically support every aspect of the anniversary celebration in accordance with the above-mentioned matters and requests.

After the completion of the celebration, the services in all the provinces and cities should submit their respective reports to the Defense Ministry and Propaganda and Education Commission, which will in turn present the CPP Central Committee a full account of the commemoration.

Slogans:

1. Welcome the 41st anniversary of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces!
2. Long live peace and national reunification in Cambodia!
3. Long live the Cambodian People's Party!
4. Long live the State of Cambodia!

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 12 June 1992

[Signed] For the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee: Chea Sim, CPP chairman

Indonesia

Minister: Vote Fraud Reports Threaten Stability

BK1706055292 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Sudomo, coordinating minister for political and security affairs, says certain groups have deliberately made accusations on the occurrence of election fraud, violations, and intimidation, which are even dramatized by certain printed media so as to nullify the election outcome. Sudomo made the remarks to reporters after chairing a coordination meeting in charge of political and security affairs in Jakarta yesterday. He added that efforts to discredit the elections process and undermine the elections outcome had reached the level of instigations which might endanger national stability. If election violations do occur, people who witness them should report and present the evidence to the Election Supervision Commission, which will immediately process the complaints.

[Begin Sudomo recording] I want to remind people that the Election Supervision Commission's duty is to receive complaints and process them in accordance with the Criminal Code. Therefore, complaints about election irregularities with the accompanying photographs must be submitted to this commission. [end recording]

Sudomo also called on the press to avoid making instigations by carrying groundless accusations. On 24 June, in his capacity of chairman of the Election Supervision

Commission, Attorney General Singgih will meet with representatives of all regional chapters of the Election Supervision Commission to discuss complaints received by them.

Actions Toward Illegal PRC Immigrants Decided

BK1506095992 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The director general of immigration, Ronny Sikap Sinuraya, told newsmen in Jakarta today that about 1,300 illegal immigrants from China who have lived in Indonesia for many years, and who have obtained residents' cards, are entitled to receive entry permit and reside in Indonesia after they have received their passports from the PRC Embassy in Jakarta.

Sinuraya said the decision was made as a follow-up of a memorandum of understanding signed between the Indonesian justice minister and the PRC in Beijing in the beginning of May.

The director general of immigration also explained that regarding Chinese citizens in the country who had applied for repatriation under the Presidential Regulation No. 10/1959 and obtained the exit permit only (EPO), the Beijing Government is willing to accept them and has agreed to give them PRC passports via its embassy in Jakarta if they still wish to return to the PRC. However, if they want to remain in Indonesia, they will be given an immigration document in the form of residents' cards (SKK) after they have obtained their passports from the PRC Embassy in Jakarta. He said that at present there are about 300,000 Chinese residents in Indonesia. Their presence does not pose a problem anymore, because legally they are Chinese citizens. Following the normalization of Sino-Indonesian diplomatic ties, the Chinese Government acknowledged them as its citizens.

Meanwhile, Chinese residents who preferred to become Indonesian citizens by naturalization should notify the PRC Embassy in Jakarta of their desire to give up their Chinese citizenship, and the Indonesian Government will immediately issue them residents' cards.

The director general of immigration calls on all illegal immigrants from China whose citizenship status is not clear to contact the local immigration office.

Suharto Comments on Results of Earth Summit

BK1606112292 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0857 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Jakarta, June 16 (ANTARA)—The results of the earth summit in Rio de Janeiro which ended last Sunday, may be discussed at the forthcoming Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit scheduled to take place in Jakarta next September, President Suharto has said.

"The countries of the Non-Aligned Movement which on the whole are developing countries, should take a

common stance on their results of the earth summit, particularly on what to be done in the implementation of sustainable development programs, the Indonesian head of state told newsmen on Monday night during the flight back home from Rio de Janeiro.

During his stay in Rio de Janeiro, President Suharto had special meetings with a number of leaders from NAM countries, including the prime ministers of India, Pakistan, and Nepal and senior African leader Julius Nyerere who all agreed on the importance of the forthcoming NAM summit in Jakarta.

President Suharto said that Indonesia considered the earth summit of great importance because of Indonesia's awareness that the world was currently facing very serious environmental problems.

As an example of the problems he mentioned the increasing temperature of the earth and the reduction of the ozone layer, which is causing polar ice to melt more quickly which in turn would cause the sea level to rise, submerging substantial areas of land and scores of islands.

Damage inflicted on nature could also change weather conditions, causing difficulty to the farmers, he said.

These setbacks could cause catastrophies which threaten life on earth, he stated.

These problems are global in character. While all countries will feel the consequences, developing countries will suffer to a greater degree.

Environmental damage will in turn increase poverty, ignorance and backwardness. Hunger and diseases will also increase, the president said.

As these are global problems they should be solved globally by all countries in accordance with their respective capabilities.

The president expressed satisfaction that an agreement had been reached which could be used as a base for further steps in facing environmental problems and in the implementation of sustainable development.

To assure that the Rio summit decisions would have significance and would benefit all countries, Indonesia has proposed the formation of a high level commission which has the task of monitoring the implementation of the earth summit results.

The commission, which will be established in the forthcoming UN General Assembly session in September, will have advanced and developing countries as members on an equal footing.

"This forum may become the embryo for the North-South dialogue", he stressed.

The Rio declaration on sustainable development has in fact already been implemented by Indonesia, and Indonesia has already taken steps which are in accordance with what was agreed in Rio, the president pointed out.

He mentioned that to safeguard its forests, Indonesia had divided the function of forests into preserved forests, production forests, (which can be exploited under certain regulations) and conversion forests (which can be used by other development sectors). Production forests are protected by a selective felling scheme, following the felling of a certain number of trees per hectare which must be replaced by replanting.

He also mentioned that forest concessionaries in Indonesia are obliged pay reforestation fees, amounting to ten U.S. dollars per cubic metre of the [words indistinct]. They are also obliged to set up timber estates.

He said we are aware that forests are not solely for our own interests, but have also a wider function as the world's lungs, the head of state said.

Indonesia hopes that its tropical forests would serve as the world's lungs and in the meantime also provide benefit for the Indonesian national development, he asserted.

Home Affairs Minister Views Desire for Change

*BK1306094492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0836 GMT
13 Jun 92*

[Text] Jakarta, June 13 (AFP)—Home Affairs Minister Rudini acknowledged here Saturday that the ruling Golkar party's five-percent drop in support in the past week's parliamentary elections showed some Indonesians want change.

"The trend is, there are some groups in the community who want changes in the establishment," Rudini told reporters after announcing a vote count that confirmed another five-year term and an overwhelming majority in parliament for Golkar. But he did not elaborate on what changes he thought Indonesians wanted.

Saturday, with almost 100 percent of the votes counted, the unofficial tally showed Golkar had taken 67.96 percent of the 97,231,990 votes cast. The two other parties, the United Development Party (PPP) and the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI), had 16,590,838 or 17.06 percent and 14,565,175 or 14.98 percent respectively. The participation rate in the polls among registered voters was 90.39 percent.

Golkar had a record 73-percent support in the last parliamentary elections, in 1987, while the PPP and the PDI had respective tallies of only 16 and 11 percent.

"It shows that there is a growing democracy. People feel free to vote," Rudini said of the stronger opposition showing and his own party's loss in support.

"Political parties are growing and are able to influence them, and Golkar should take this (result) into consideration," he said. "This is a good indication of development activities in political life."

"The fall of Golkar votes—maybe some people are fed up," Rudini admitted. "It can also be negatively influenced by leaders in the government. But that is not a threat for Golkar."

Rudini said the electoral commission he heads would decide how to allocate 400 House of Representative (DPR) seats on June 29, after receiving official reports from regional polling stations June 26.

The KOMPAS daily said Saturday that the latest poll results would translate into 282 seats for Golkar, 62 for the PPP and 56 for the PDI. After the last election, Golkar had 299 seats, the PPP had 60, and the PDI had 41. The other 100 seats are reserved for the military, whose personnel are prohibited by law from voting.

Rudini said preventing military personnel from voting was wise "because they have guns. It is not fair if they vote," he added. "They will win because they have guns. But as citizens they have the right to be in the parliament." Moreover, he said, "Twenty percent (of house members) cannot make decisions."

Laos

Rebels Reportedly Seize Three Government Posts

BK1506025192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jun 92 p 6

[Text] Loei—About 300 Laotian rebels yesterday captured three Lao Government military positions in Muang Sanakham opposite Pak Chom District of this northeastern province following a heavy exchange of gunfire that sent about 100 Lao people fleeing across the Mekong River.

A border source said the rebels, which claimed to be part of the "Free Democratic Lao National Salvation Force" launched simultaneous attacks on three government positions at Pak Houai Sao, Ban Don Hieng and Ban Wang with RPGs and M79 grenade launchers at about 6 a.m.

Laotian Government soldiers returned fire with 105mm artillery during the one-hour battle.

Outnumbered by the rebels, the government troops abandoned their positions at about 7 a.m. By 8 p.m., the rebel flag was flying over the three captured positions.

About 100 Lao villagers fled to Ban Had Bia in Pak Chom District on the Thai side of the Mekong River.

The number of casualties on both sides was unknown.

Last night, government forces were expected to try to retake the positions, the source said.

Thailand's Crown Prince Continues Visit, Tours

Visits Luang Prabang on 15 Jun

BK1506152592 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] At 0900 today, His Royal Highness Crown [HRH] Prince Maha Wachiralongkon of the Kingdom of Thailand travelled by a special plane to visit Luang Prabang Province. He was accompanied by His Excellency [H.E.] Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs.

At 0940, the plane arrived at the Luang Prabang provincial airport. There, the Thai crown prince was accorded a warm welcome by H.E. Chansi Phosikham, governor of Luang Prabang Province, and the people of Luang Prabang.

At 1025, the Crown Prince left the Mittaphap Hotel to visit Chom Phousi. Pha That [pagoda containing Buddhist relics] Chom Phousi is located in the Chom Phousi field in the central part of Luang Prabang. The pagoda is on Phousi hill which is often mentioned in the ancient legends on the founding of Luang Prabang town. Phousi hill is about 150 metres high, and its top can be reached by climbing a staircase of 328 steps. The construction of Phousi began in 1936 and was completed in 1937.

At 1400, the Crown Prince left his residence to visit the museum at the old palace. Later, he proceeded to Wat [Buddhist temple] Siang Thong and Wat Wisoun. Wat Siang Thong was built between 1559-1560 before King Saisetthathilat moved the capital of the Lan Xang Kingdom from Luang Prabang to Vientiane. Wat Siang Thong's architecture is typically Lao and it is artistically decorated with ornate flowery designs and carvings similar to that of Wat Wisoun. The construction of Wat Wisoun began in 1503 on orders of King (?Wisounalat) and was completed in 1504. In 1942, the area of Wat Wisoun was used as a religious museum to house a collection of various religious objects and cultural artifacts. However, most of them have been moved to the Museum in the old palace.

At 1730, the governor and people of Luang Prabang organized a traditional welcome and well-wishing ceremony called "basi" for the Crown Prince at his residence.

At 1930, the governor of Luang Prabang hosted a reception in honor of HRH Crown Prince after which the Thai prince watched a series of traditional Lao folk art performances.

16-17 Jun Activities Described

BK1706034292 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday, 16 June, was the fourth day of the official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by His Royal Highness [HRH] Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon of the Kingdom of Thailand. In the morning, HRH the crown prince left Luang

Prabang on board a royal helicopter for Viangsai—a historic district in Houa Phan Province. Upon his arrival in Viangsai District, HRH the crown prince was accorded a welcome by Somphan Phengkhammi, governor of Houa Phan Province, along with cadres, soldiers, police, and fraternal people of the district. HRH the crown prince was then invited to view two out of many caverns which were used as headquarters of our Lao revolutionary leaders during the war. The two caverns he viewed were the caverns of Souphanouvong and Kaysone Phomvihane. These caverns were residences of our Lao leaders during the national salvation war against the aggression of the colonialists and imperialists. They have now become places of historic significance of our Lao revolution.

On this occasion, the Houa Phan provincial governor also hosted a luncheon for HRH Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon. After visiting Viangsai, HRH the crown prince returned to Luang Prabang and stayed overnight there.

This morning, the fifth day of his visit to Laos, HRH Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon of the Kingdom of Thailand will leave Luang Prabang by a special, royal plane for a visit to Xieng Khouang Province. In this province, in addition to viewing the Plain of Jars which is considered a well-known place of historic significance of Laos, HRH the crown prince will attend a luncheon to be hosted in his honor by the governor of Xieng Khouang Province. He will return to Vientiane capital by a special, royal plane in the afternoon.

Khamtai Siphandon Congratulates Thai Premier

BK1606003492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Congratulatory message from His Excellency Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to His Excellency Anan Panyarachun, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, in Bangkok; dated 15 June 1992]

[Text] On the occasion of your appointment as prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, I have the honor to extend my sincere congratulations to your excellency. I would also like to convey my best wishes to you for your success in performing your honorable and esteemed duties.

I firmly believe that, under your leadership, the relations of friendship and cooperation of good brotherliness and neighborliness between our two countries will be further developed as usual and continually improved for the common interests of the Lao and Thai peoples and for peace, stability, and development in this region and the world.

Thongsing Thammavong Visits Sekong, Savannakhet *BK1506105192 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] Vientiane, June 15 (KPL)—Mr. Thongsing Thammavong, Politburo member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [LPRP CC], head of the LPRP CC Organisation Board, [and] vice president of the People's Supreme Assembly, recently visited the southern provinces of Sekong and Savannakhet.

While in Sekong, Mr. Thongsing Thammavong talked to the provincial administration, stressing on the importance of the consolidation of organisational mechanism and working method. He further pointed to the subversive attempts by means of peaceful evolution by the enemy.

When talking in Savannakhet, he spoke of the preparation for the conference of the provincial party committee due to be held soon, in particular the significance of the political report and personnel issue which are decisive to the organisational work.

UNTAC Delegation Meets Officer, Minister

BK1706094492 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 17 (KPL)—A UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] delegation has met with Lao military officers headed by Colonel Saisamon Onmanivan in Vientiane. The sides exchanged views on the implementation of the Paris treaty on Cambodia.

The sides agreed to perform their duties during the second phase of the cease-fire in Cambodia to be effective as of June 13, 1992 from 8 A.M.

The Lao People's Democratic Republic, as party to the Paris treaty on Cambodia and neighbour of Cambodia, pledged the continued performance of its internationalist duty and its good cooperation to UNTAC in order to get the treaty implemented immediately and effectively.

The UNTAC delegation later met with Lao Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet to discuss the same matter.

FAO-Aided Rice Arrives in Savannakhet Province

BK1306125492 Vientiane KPL in English 0948 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 13 (KPL)—The second batch of rice relief amounting to 700 tons out of the total 2,980 tons granted by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) reached Savannakhet late last week through the border check-point between this southern province and Thai Mukdahan Province.

The first batch amounting to 1,000 tons provided by the international organisation as relief for the victims of floods and drought attacking Savannakhet last year, was already distributed to victims in various districts in April.

The distribution of the second batch of relief is under way.

Despite the delivery of relief, it was reported that people in some remote areas in Outhoumphon, Champhon, Sonnabouli Districts and some other areas are still faced with rice shortage. This indicates that the delivery may have not yet reached its destinations because of poor road access.

While for the central Khammouane Province, the first batch of relief amounting to 1,400 tons of rice arrived in mid-May. The delivery is also under way.

Philippines

Official Congress Poll Count Shows Ramos Winner

HK1706031492 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 17 Jun 92 pp 1, 12

[Text] Fidel V. Ramos emerged the winner in the presidential race after a 14-man joint congressional committee finished tabulating all 94 certificates of canvass.

Ramos of Lakas-NUCD [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] had 5,342,521 votes as against 4,468,173 for Miriam Defensor-Santiago of the People's Reform Party [PRP].

Joseph Estrada, a movie-actor-turned politician, won the vice-presidential race by a landslide. He amassed 6,739,738 votes as against only 4,438,494 for ex-Chief Justice Marcelo Feman.

The new president and vice president may be proclaimed by next Tuesday [23 June], acting House Speaker Antonio Cuenco said.

The Senate-House committee finished certifying results of the May 11 balloting at 11:10 PM. Tabulated last night were the certificates of canvass from Ifugao, Tagig/Pateros, Siquijor, Agusan del Sur, Eastern Samar, Romblon, Zamboanga del Norte, Northern Samar, Lanao del Sur and second district of Quezon City.

Sen. Wigberto Tanada, co-chairman of the committee certifying votes for the presidential and vice-presidential race, earlier said Ramos' lead over Santiago was "insurmountable."

"Well, he (Ramos) has a lead of over 500,000 votes. I think it would be difficult to overcome," Tanada said a few hours before the committee finished its work.

Cuenco said the joint committee will prepare its formal report and present this to the full Congress, probably Monday [22 June].

He said legislators have asked for more time to study the report which would contain the canvass results, including allegations of fraud, and the resolution calling for the proclamation.

Cuenco said the winners may be proclaimed by next Tuesday night at the earliest.

Homobono Adaza, lawyer for Santiago's People's Reform Party, said they would ask the Supreme Court to order an investigation of what he described were "suspicious" returns.

Adaza said the congressional committee was simply tallying figures and not investigating cases where tally sheets showed erasures and other irregularities.

He said certificates that showed irregularities accounted for 2.5 million votes, enough to change the outcome.

He said he would appeal to the Supreme Court to examine precinct returns—on which the certificates of canvass from provinces and cities are based—as soon as Congress approves the committee report.

Ramos' lawyers have argued that the presence of erasures does not automatically mean that the results were falsified and could represent honest corrections.

"Most of the alterations and erasures belong to Ramos," Adaza said. "If they were honest mistakes, why does it only happen to votes of Ramos? Miriam's votes are subtracted and Ramos' votes increased. That's disturbing."

Ramos would take office with the smallest mandate in Philippine history.

In the presidential race, Eduardo Cojuangco of the Nationalist People's Coalition placed third, followed by Ramon V. Mitra of Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], Imelda Marcos of Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, [KBL-New Society Movement], Jovito Salonga of the LP/PDP-Laban coalition [Liberal Party- Pilipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength], and Salvador H. Laurel of the Nacionalista Party [NP].

In the vice-presidential race, Lito Osmena of Lakas-NUCD placed third, followed by Ramon Magsaysay of PRP, Aquilino Pimentel of the LP/PDP-Laban coalition, Vicente Magsaysay of KBL, and Eva Estrada- Kalaw of NP.

In a related development, Malacanang plans to spend P15 million [Philippine pesos] for an "austere" inauguration of President Aquino's successor.

The new president takes office June 30.

Officials said the largest expense—P2.3 million—will be for 25 suites, 50 deluxe and 30 standard rooms for VIPs at Manila hotels.

The rest will go for a military parade, transportation, press facilities and other related expenses.

**Official Congress Election Tally (as of 11:10 PM,
June 16)**

President	
Candidates	Total votes
Ramos	5,342,521
Santiago	4,468,173
Cojuangco	4,116,376
Mitra	3,316,661
Marcos	2,338,294
Salonga	2,302,123
Laurel	770,046
Vice-President	
Candidates	Total votes
Estrada	6,739,738
Fernan	4,438,494
Osmena	3,362,467
Magsaysay, R.	2,900,556
Pimentel	2,023,289
Magsaysay, V.	699,895
Kalaw	256,317

Ramos Meets Aquino on Government Transition

HK1706060892 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Fidel Ramos went to Malacanang this morning, a few hours after the congressional canvassing was completed at 2300 and confirmed him as president.

According to a Radio Patrol report, Ramos met with President Aquino to discuss the transfer of government powers.

Meanwhile, a ceremony will be held in Malacanang transferring the torch of Kabisig [partnership] to Ramos.

In a related development, the 14-man joint congressional panel will today discuss the report it will submit to the joint session on Friday.

Committee Chairman Wigberto Tanada said lawyers of the various parties will get their copies of the report tomorrow. The report will include the election results where Fidel Ramos and Senator Joseph Estrada emerged winners in the presidential and vice presidential races.

Cojuangco Meets Ramos, Promises Assistance

HK1706094292 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Former Ambassador Danding Cojuangco and president-elect Fidel V. Ramos have agreed to help each other in developing the nation. This was confirmed on DZRH radio station by Congressman Jose de Venecia,

Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats secretary general, after Conjuangco met Ramos at his home last Sunday [14 June].

De Venecia said Cojuangco did not ask for any conditions for cooperating with Ramos, but instead he promised to help realize economic programs.

Meanwhile, De Venecia expressed confidence that, because of the meeting, political tension might be lessened and national unity will gradually be achieved.

[Begin De Venecia recording in English] It was a good meeting. It was a positive meeting. It was a meeting that was good for Philippine democracy. It was a very honorable meeting. It was a good meeting. It was a positive meeting. It considerably reduced the tension in the country and it considerably reduced the political temperature in the country. [end recording]

Meanwhile, De Venecia added that they are now arranging a dialogue between Ramos and Defensor-Santiago in order to fulfill the former defense secretary's aim of reconciliation with his opponents in the last election.

[Begin De Venecia recording in English, in progress] ...bring about some form of a dialogue between the Ramos camp and the Miriam Defensor-Santiago camp, leading to a meeting at the summit between Mrs. Santiago and Eddie Ramos. [end recording]

Senate Panel Finds Excess Number of Precincts

HK1606061792 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 16 Jun 92 p 1

[By Minnie Cadelina]

[Excerpts] The Senate Public Information and Media Relations Office (PIMRO) yesterday stopped releasing the percentage figure of the total number of precincts that had been tabulated by the special congressional canvass joint committee after it noticed that if it added up all the number of precincts per province or city, the sum would exceed 170,354, the total number of precincts nationwide.

The PIMRO said based on the number of precincts per province or city that had been furnished it by the Commission on Elections (Comelec), the sum would reach 186,880 or 16,526 more than the actual number.

PIMRO Director Peter Sing said he noticed the discrepancy earlier when they were just recording the certificates of canvass (COCs) that were being received by the Senate reception committee.

The PIMRO was then updating the media on the number of COCs that were being submitted to the Senate. The information also contained the number of precincts per COC and the time and date such COC was received by the Senate.

Sing said he had then called the attention of the Comelec on why its figures exceeded the total number of precincts nationwide and was assured by Commissioner Vicente de Lima that they would double-check the figures. [passage omitted]

The committee, last Friday [19 Jun] ordered the BOCs [board of canvassers] who failed to submit precinct SOVs [statements of votes] to submit the documents not later than yesterday. Otherwise, they would be cited for contempt.

Representative Ronaldo Zamora of Mandaluyong-San Juan, chairman of the House panel of the joint committee, said they would deliberate on the contents of the final report on the preliminary canvassing Wednesday. The final report would, in turn, be deliberated upon by the joint session of Congress.

Zamora projected that the joint session would most likely start the deliberation on Friday to make way for the preparation of the final report.

He added that it would probably take two to three days before the final report would be approved by the joint session.

Senator Wigberto Tanada, chairman of the Senate panel of the joint committee, explained that during the joint session, two members of the committee—one from the Senate and one from the House—would sponsor the final report. Each will be given 30 minutes to give his/her sponsorship speech. Afterwards, two hours will be given to those who are opposed to the approval of the final report. The period of interpellation will then proceed and is expected to be finished within two to three days.

Another set of committee members will sponsor a resolution to proclaim the winners of the presidential and vice presidential election.

When the resolution has been approved, Congress will then proclaim the new president and vice president of the country. Zamora said there was no need to set another day for the proclamation after Congress had approved the resolution. Zamora was reacting to questions whether Congress would give a chance for whoever wins the presidential and vice presidential contests to attend the proclamation.

"There is no need for that. This is not an oath-taking," Zamora said.

Santiago To Tour Campuses, Proclaim Poll Fraud

HK1506140192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Presidential candidate Miriam Defensor Santiago expressed her intention of starting this week her nationwide campus speaking tour to explain to students the alleged widespread poll fraud last 11 May.

Santiago said part of her campaign against election fraud is the launching this month of the National Convention

of Youth Leaders, particularly the People's Reform Party youth groups, "Movers" and "Nuevo '92."

Santiago stressed she will continue her ongoing protest against the alleged election fraud even when a new president and vice president have been proclaimed. She explained that if the winning candidates will have been proclaimed based on the certificates of canvass, the proclamation will be null and void and will have no legal effect.

Ramos Confirms U.S. Plan To Cut Military Aid

HK1706053992 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] President-apparent Fidel Ramos today confirmed his talks with Eduardo Danding Cojuangco Jr. He also confirmed the United States plan to cut its military aid to the Philippines. Vicky Robles reports:

[Begin recording] [Robles] In an interview with Malacanang reporters, Ramos today confirmed his meeting with Eduardo Cojuangco. Ramos said they had a pleasant and cordial discussion but he stressed that all pending ill-gotten wealth cases against Cojuangco will be pursued.

Meanwhile, Ramos also confirmed the United States Government plan to push ahead with the two-thirds cut in military aid to the Philippines. However, he stressed that this has nothing to do with his assumption of power, saying that the U.S. Government has long been planning to cut its military aid to other countries due to the austerity measures it is undertaking.

[Reporter] Sir, there is a report that the U.S. Government is planning to cut by two-thirds its military aid. Does your administration has something to do with this?

[Ramos] This has nothing to do with the outgoing and incoming administrations here. This is the policy they laid down a couple of years ago in regard to their tackling their own problem of necessity or budget deficit. And that affects us. But maybe we should really solve our problems. So, we should continue self reliance. [end recording]

That was Fidel Ramos.

Meanwhile, Ramos has mentioned that he may announce the members of his cabinet on his proclamation as president of the country. Ramos met with President Aquino for an hour and 15 minutes today. Preparations for the 30 June proclamation were also among the issues discussed.

Aquino 'Not Worried' About Japanese Troops Law

HK1706030292 Quezon City MALAYA in English 17 Jun 92 p 3

[Excerpt] The Japanese parliament passed yesterday a controversial law allowing overseas deployment of troops for the first time since World War II despite

protests by the opposition Socialist Party and apprehension of countries victimized by Japan in the last war.

President Aquino earlier said the Philippines is not worried about the passage of the law, which would send 2,000 Japanese troops to join the United Nations peace-keeping forces in Cambodia.

The Philippines already has 1,000 soldiers in the same force.

Sen. Wigberto Tanada, however, expressed "concern" and called on all peace-loving people "including the Japanese to remain vigilant against the resurgence of Japanese militarism."

Tanada filed a resolution to "express the sense of the Senate" on the bill as being against "efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) peoples to transform the region into a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality (ZOPFAN)." [passage omitted]

Trade Sanctions on South Africa To Remain

HK1706031892 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 17 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] The Philippines has not lifted restrictions on trading with South Africa, Acting Foreign Affairs Secretary Pablo Suarez said yesterday.

He expressed consternation over the "precipitate announcement" by (Trade and Industry) Undersecretary Tomas Alcantara last week.

"We haven't lifted trade sanctions. We are waiting for the CODESA (UN Commission on the Democratization of South Africa) guidelines," Mr Suarez maintained.

"We bent over a bit by agreeing to consider some exemption on a case-to-case, non-precedent basis. But, in the interagency meetings with DTI [Department of Trade and Industry], it was clearly understood this would be an "internal" policy consideration—not to be announced publicly," he said.

A senior foreign affairs official said allowing civilian travel and "a trickle, not a flood" of trade was meant as a calibrated response to Pretoria's moves to dismantle apartheid.

"Full normalization of the relationship cannot take place unless there is at least a transitional government in place with some semblance of proportional representation," Mr Suarez stressed.

Enrile Likely To Succeed Abadia as Military Head

HK1606055592 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 16 Jun 92 p 10

[Text] Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lisandro Abadia yesterday [said] Army chief Arturo Enrile is his "best bet" as his successor.

At the Kapihen sa Maynila [Restaurant Coffee] forum yesterday morning, Gen. Abadia said based on seniority,

experience and competence, "I think Major General Enrile is a very good candidate." Gen. Abadia retires in 1994.

Major General Enrile, who, together with other major service and area commanders, is already scheduled for promotion to the next higher rank, is scheduled for retirement in 1996 yet.

However, Gen. Abadia added there are also other area commanders and staff officers "just as competent." He identified them as AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] deputy chief of staff for intelligence Alfredo Filler, 7th Infantry Division commander Orlando Soriano, who is based in Cordillera region, and 6th Infantry Division commander Oswaldo Villanueva, who is based in Cotabato City.

Elite Class

Brig. Generals Filler, Soriano, Villanueva, together with Major General Enrile and General Abadia, are all members of the "ruling class," the elite Philippine Military Academy Class '62.

Asked if he would be willing to accept other government posts or run for public office like his other retired comrades after his retirement, he said, "I will not enter government service or politics after I retire. Politics is not my cup of tea."

"I want (a) new direction in my life, maybe go into management, and I want to have more time with my family," he added. "By the time I retire, I should have served the government (with) the best years of my life."

Military Rebels Skeptical of Amnesty Offer

HK1706055692 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 17 Jun 92 p 12

[Text] Notwithstanding repeated peace overtures from the military leadership, detained ultra-rightist leaders still expressed reservations as to the sincerity of such offering.

In an interview yesterday inside their detention cells in Camp Aguinaldo, former Commodore Jose Comendador dismissed the amnesty program being offered by presidential front runner Fidel Ramos as just "noises in the media."

He said the military or the Executive department has yet to send any formal or official proposal or statement regarding the program.

"We've been hearing that amnesty in the media for a long, long time already," Mr. Comendador said, "it is just being announced in order to neutralize the aggressiveness of the dissenting groups against him."

"If they are really sincere about it, let them start moving, pass a declaration and not talk about it in the media," he added.

Mr. Ramos earlier announced that he will still need to consult the military and defense leaders for the final

guideline of the amnesty proposal. To which Mr. Comendador countered "he has been with the organization, he must know the background (of the problem)... He, from the beginning, knows the root cause."

When asked for his comment, former Brig. General Edgardo Abenina answered, "We are not asking for amnesty... if the Government should give it, it should be given unconditionally."

He was referring to what the present administration did to political detainees at the outset of President Aquino's term.

Former Lt. Colonel Oscar Legaspi, for his part, stressed that what the rebel soldiers need right now is not amnesty but "good government, devoid of graft and corruption and where the spirit of unity and reconciliation exists."

Military Adjusts Policy Toward Communist Rebels

HK1706053692 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English
17 June 92 p 4

[Editorial: "The Military Abandons the Cold War Approach"]

[Text] The Armed Forces are at last aligning themselves to the movement of events in the post-Cold War era. The thaw in the position of the security forces on the Communist insurgency was indicated by the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff, General Lisandro Abadia, and the Philippine National Police [PNP] deputy chief of operations, Director General Gerardo Flores, who made two significant points in last Monday's Kapihan [Coffeeshop] forum.

They conceded that the key to the long-running Communist insurgency lay "not through arms any more but through economic social activities of government," and that the security forces would no longer resist granting bail to Communist leaders facing trial on charges arising from their rebellion. From this turnaround, we can see the thaw in the military thinking in regard to how to deal with the insurgency. The statements give encouragement to the petition for bail by senior Communist Party leaders now in jail—among them Rodolfo Salas, said to be chairman of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-New People's Army, Satur Ocampo, chairman of the National Democratic Front, and Rafael Baylosis, said to be the party's secretary-general.

The departure of the military from the rigidity that characterized its hardline, unconditional surrender approach during the Cold War is most welcome. The shift in position indicates, first, that the security forces are now confident that they can deal effectively with a weakened communist movement without emphasizing armed conflict which takes a heavy toll on human rights; secondly, that they have recognized that, following the collapse of Communism in the former Soviet bloc, the local movement has lost its ideological direction and is now in disarray; and, thirdly,

international support for the local movement has dried up, partly because of the dissolution of the Communist system of authoritarian rule.

The shift in the Armed Forces' position is taking place as the next government is considering amnesty, with certain conditions, of course, for Rightist and Leftist rebels, as a step towards social peace. In the past, peace talks, especially with the Communists, stumbled on the rocks of resistance by the military to negotiated peace for fear that it would give the Communists a breathing spell to regain strength. Objectively, this is no longer the case.

Many of the senior Communist leaders have been captured, reflecting the disarray within the movement that has lost its ideological inspiration, moorings and models following the crumbling of Marxist regimes in Eastern Europe and the dissolution of the former Soviet Union, now merely a commonwealth of states dominated by Russia. This profound historical upheaval has delivered a mortal blow to the coherence of the Philippine movement, and many of its senior leaders have either lost their revolutionary zeal or are in search of a new interpretation of history to sustain their faith in the long-term renewal of Marxism-Leninism.

In this state of flux, resolution of the insurgency by arms is out of place. A policy of attraction, which includes amnesty, access to bail, and emphasis on social reform, can do more to reintegrate social rebels into civil society. For a long time, the military had resisted even moves to open the political system to Communists. But as has been demonstrated by Western democracies, drawing the Left, even of the revolutionary variety, into open parliamentary participation is the best way to remove the sting of revolution.

If the Communists, for example, find it more useful to effect social change by competing in the political arena, they can be induced to give up the armed struggle and there would even be no need to impose the conditions that, before amnesty is granted, they must formally declare that they have abandoned armed struggle. Once the Communists are drawn into the parliamentary arena and given fair opportunities to compete for public power, declarations of giving up the revolution become redundant.

The departure by the security forces from the rigidity of its all-out armed policy, mixed with civic action, against the Communists coincides with the restructuring of the Armed Forces so they could take full responsibility for the nation's external defense. The fact that the National Police, composed mainly of the former Philippine Constabulary, is now responsible for handling the insurgency and internal peacekeeping, that the PNP has been put under the control of the Department of Interior and Local Government, and that the AFP has taken responsibility for external defense, all point to the diminishing threat of the Communist movement to national security.

Rebellions based on social unrest cannot, however, be eradicated unless unrest is addressed with social reform. Economic expansion and closing the social equity gap

are the obvious need to put an end to this rebellion. But the fact that General Abadia and Flores are viewing the insurgency from a broader context, including its international dimensions, gives us some hope to expect new and creative approaches to end insurgency. At the very least, people like Satur Ocampo have a better chance to be free on bail while they stand trial.

Over 200 NPA Rebels Surrender in Mindoro

*HK1706053892 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 17 Jun 92 p 1*

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Imus, Cavite—Some 250 New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Mindoro have returned to the fold of the law, Region 4 PNP [Philippine National Police] director Chief Superintendent Umberto A. Rodriguez reported yesterday.

The surrenderees included NPA mass-base supporters and regulars, Rodriguez said.

He presided over a command conference here attended by provincial PNP directors in Southern Tagalog.

Senior Superintendent Recaredo Sarmiento II, commander of "Task Force Crossbow" operating in Mindoro, reported that the cause of the mass surrender of the NPA rebels and supporters in Mindoro is the relentless anti-insurgency campaign launched last year.

Some of the top rebel leaders in the area were either captured or killed, Sarmiento said.

The captured rebels revealed their operations, enabling PNP troopers to trace their command posts and headquarters in Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, he said.

Chief Superintendent Rodriguez recommended to PNP Director-General Cesar P. Nazareno the disbandment of the "Task Force Crossbow" and the return of component companies to their mother units, noting that the PNP is now conducting only "clearing operations" in the two Mindoro provinces.

According to Rodriguez, the surrenderees will be provided financial and welfare assistance by the Department of Social Services and Development (DSWD) under the reconciliation program of the Aquino administration.

Rodriguez said that the PNP "will finish the war in Mindoro and other provinces under the Region 4 PNP command without loss of life and blood," recalling that this was his commitment when he took over the ReCom [Regional Command] 4 PNP command last October.

Mindoro Occidental PNP director Superintendent Jundam Abdulah reported to Rodriguez that he suspects that the kidnapped in Sta. Cruz, Mindoro Occidental, was killed by the kidnappers whom he believed were NPA rebels.

Kidnapped last March 26 was Libertador Vidal. He was campaigning in a remote barangay in Sta. Cruz when he was abducted.

The family had offered P50,000 [Philippine pesos] as payment for the ransom but the kidnappers refused to accept the money.

Rizal PNP director Supt. [Superintendent] MacArthur Torres informed Rodriguez that many groups of criminals operating in Rizal had been busted.

The criminal elements operating in Rizal were mostly holdup men, extortionists and carnappers, he said.

Torres said that patrol cars equipped with radios are effective in the campaign against criminals.

Rodriguez accepted a donation of 10 units of patrol cars from the Republic of China. The donation was solicited by Cavite Gov. Juanito Remulla.

Rodriguez also awarded Superintendent Leonardo Soberano, Senior Inspectors Sanie Pagdilao and Francisco Manalo and 15 non-commissioned officers.

They were cited for their role as members of a special operating unit that conducted a series of surveillance operations and raids on the "safe houses" of suspected drug pushers in barangays Zapote and Aniban, both in Bacoar, from October 1 to December last year. The operations resulted in the killing of the four suspected pushers.

Thailand

Asa Meets Khieu Samphan on Peace Process 16 Jun

*BK1606152192 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] At the Foreign Ministry today, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, in his capacity as a member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], called on Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin to discuss suggestions for and problems of the Cambodian peace process. The Cambodian peace process has had no achievements because the Khmer Rouge have refused to allow the UN peacekeeping force to disarm its soldiers by claiming that the UN is unable to implement all points of the Paris agreement on Cambodia and that there are Vietnamese troops remaining in Cambodia.

During the meeting with the foreign minister, Khieu Samphan declined to answer questions on whether he will attend the conference on Cambodian reconstruction to be held in Tokyo, Japan. He also reiterated the two reasons for barring the UN peacekeeping force from entering the area under the control of the Khmer Rouge.

Speaking to reporters, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said that during the meeting Thailand reaffirmed its support for the Cambodian peace plan by pointing out to the Khmer Rouge that this is the last chance for all parties concerned to turn to each other, with the participation of

the UN in the peace process. Asa also said that the Khmer Rouge leader had not yet decided whether to join the conference on Cambodian reconstruction in Japan. However, the Khmer Rouge has its own proposals.

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] What are the Khmer Rouge's new proposals?

[Asa] They concern increasing the role of the SNC because they are afraid the Western countries will recognize the Phnom Penh side to the extent that the Khmer Rouge may disintegrate in the end. The Cambodians must discuss this matter among themselves.

[Unidentified reporter] Does it mean that the role of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] must be reduced?

[Asa] No, UNTAC's role cannot be reduced. UNTAC has an important role for Cambodian peace. There will be no more chances to gain UN participation in Cambodia in the future. The UN will look after free and fair elections in Cambodia. After that, the Cambodians will have to administer their country themselves. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin will go to Japan on 21 June to attend the conference on Cambodian reconstruction.

Asks KR To Attend Tokyo Meeting

OW1606102892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0855 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Bangkok, June 16 KYODO—Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said Tuesday he has tried to persuade Cambodian Khmer Rouge [KR] leader Khieu Samphan to attend the conference for reconstruction of Cambodia in Tokyo next week.

On his first day in office for his second term as foreign minister, Asa met Khieu Samphan for more than an hour in the morning.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, he said he told the KR leader that the Tokyo conference is significant since more than 30 potential donor countries would attend at the ministerial level.

Asa said the KR was reluctant to attend the Tokyo meeting because of its dissatisfaction with the performance and role of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and its "loss of faith" in the international community's efforts to find peace for Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan reiterated his faction's criticism of UNTAC, claiming that it did not fulfill its role to monitor and verify the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia, Asa said. The KR maintains that Vietnamese troops are secretly operating in the country.

The KR leader also expressed "disappointment" with the role and function of the Supreme National Council

(SNC), the reconciliatory transitional ruling body of the rival Cambodian factions, Asa said.

Asa quoted Khieu Samphan as saying that the SNC could not function to its full authority and was dominated by the Phnom Penh government.

Asa said he told Khieu Samphan that the problem of the SNC's function should be discussed among the Cambodians and should not be made an obstacle to the international community's efforts to help restore peace and reconstruct Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan, talking to the press after the meeting, refused to say whether he would go to Tokyo, but seemed to indicate a softer stance on the question than he showed Friday, when he told reporters in Phnom Penh he would not attend the conference.

The KR's refusal to cooperate with the UNTAC's plan to disarm the rival Cambodian factions—scheduled to begin last Saturday—has brought the peace plan to the brink of collapse.

Thailand was asked by UNTAC Chief Yasushi Akashi earlier this month to help pressure the KR to cooperate with the implementation of the peace plan.

High-ranking Thai officials who met Akashi did not fully accede to his request, but advised him to try to improve the channels of communication between UNTAC and the KR, according to Thai sources.

Khieu Samphan Not Persuaded

BK1706012192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Jun 92 p 7

[Excerpts] Thailand yesterday apparently failed to convince the Khmer Rouge to join other Cambodian factions in Tokyo later this week to discuss the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Cambodia. Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin told reporters after meeting with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan for more than one hour that he was unable to convince the guerrilla faction to join the Tokyo meeting during June 19-22. [passage omitted]

Mr Asa said he urged the Khmer Rouge leader to cooperate with the UN peace plan or the Cambodians will go back to killing each other again.

"We repeated to Khieu Samphan that they should not miss the boat, not let the chance slip by, and they should try to consider the common interests of all Cambodian people," Mr Asa said. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan said that his faction was ready to go along with peace plan signed in Paris last October but reiterated a demand that the UN first verify that no Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia.

"We have stressed time and again that we will cooperate with the UN for the implementation of the peace agreement on Cambodia, but two main points have not yet been solved," Khieu Samphan said after the meeting with Mr Asa.

"The control and supervision of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Cambodia and the (clause) of the agreement concerning the Supreme National Council (SNC) as the unique, legitimate organisation and force of authority in Cambodia are the two unresolved problems," the Khmer Rouge leader said.

In addition to the verification of the total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, Khieu Samphan was also referring to the Phnom Penh government retaining executive powers in the run-up to UN-supervised elections scheduled for next year. [passage omitted]

Analysts have said that the Khmer Rouge is concerned that the UNTAC is biased towards the Phnom Penh government, and that it will fail to insist when Phnom Penh hands over executive powers.

"Khieu Samphan proposed increasing the powers of the SNC because he fears that Western countries might recognise the Phnom Penh government and eventually the SNC might disintegrate," Mr Asa said.

Thailand has received increasing calls to pressure the Khmer Rouge into following the peace plan, but Mr Asa has suggested that the Cambodians should be left alone to sort out their current problems.

"Foreign countries and the UN Security Council should let all the Cambodian factions consult each other without outside interference," Mr. Asa said.

Another Foreign Ministry official, speaking privately, said it was not appropriate for Thailand to put pressure on any one faction at this stage.

The official pointed out, however, that Mr Asa could be expected to take a more active interest in the Cambodian peace plan as it was he who signed the agreement in Paris last October.

There have been calls for Thailand to close its border with Cambodia's Khmer Rouge-controlled zones, cutting off the faction's exports of logs and gem stones which earn it an estimated \$100 million each year.

However, diplomats based in Bangkok said the Thai Government's hands are tied to a certain extent because the lucrative logging and gem deals are brokered and controlled by Thailand's powerful military who are likely to resist any moves to seal the border.

Japanese Envoy, Asa Discuss Cambodian Situation
BK1606041392 Bangkok THE NATION in English
16 Jun 92 p A1

[Excerpt] Thailand has "the power of persuasion" to urge the Khmer Rouge to abide by the UN peace accord,

Japan's retiring Ambassador Hisahiko Okazaki said yesterday. Reappointed Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, meanwhile, is reportedly set to lead a Thai delegation to a Cambodian conference in Tokyo this month.

Okazaki's remark came as fresh fighting erupted in Cambodia with a counter-offensive by the Phnom Penh government against the Khmer Rouge "in one of the most violent acts of war in many months," according to diplomats in the Cambodian capital.

Okazaki, commenting before next week's Tokyo conference to find ways to reconstruct Cambodia, noted concern about the Khmer Rouge refusal to allow the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to disarm its troops which are the strongest of the three resistance groups.

For the Khmer Rouge to continue such a position it has to receive supplies from somewhere, he said. He did not elaborate.

The envoy said he did not know whether the Marxist group still receives assistance from outside. "But the Khmer Rouge has its own resources," he said. Historically, the envoy said, Chinese supplies through Thailand to the Khmer Rouge were crucial.

Okazaki, who will complete his tour of duty at the end of this month, said he would like to discuss the Cambodian problem and the Tokyo conference with Foreign Minister Asa.

"I would like to make sure that he will attend the meeting," he said.

A Foreign Ministry official told THE NATION last night Asa will lead a 10-member delegation to the conference.

"Thailand is ready to provide assistance to Cambodia in the fields of agriculture, human resource training and academia," the official said.

Thailand is helping Cambodia to repair major land transport links to facilitate the repatriation of refugees from the Thai-Cambodian border.

Asa's predecessor as foreign minister, Phongpon Adireksan, had told Japan he would attend the June 22 meeting, joining foreign ministers of at least 30 countries which are potential donors for Cambodia's economic reconstruction.

"Thailand's participation is very important to the conference," he said.

If Thailand was not represented it would damage the prestige of the Tokyo conference, he said.

Asa initially planned to send Political Affairs Department director-general Sarot Chawanawirat to the meeting but changed his mind.

Thailand was instrumental in persuading Japan to take an active role in the Cambodian peace process by urging

Tokyo to hold peace talks which led to Japan's larger political and economic participation.

According to the same Foreign Ministry official, Asa said the Tokyo meeting is also important to Thailand, as it would be held only a week after the Anan government took office. Thailand would be able to explain its situation to foreign leaders gathered in Tokyo. [passage omitted]

Japanese Business 'Seriously Affected' by Unrest

*BK1606053392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Jun 92 p 15*

[Text] Japanese investors have told the Board of Investment (BoI) that last month's political unrest seriously affected their businesses.

Apart from the effect on production and sales, the unrest had indirectly brought about increased demands for social welfare and benefits from their employees.

The investors told BoI officials about the difficulties they were facing in an unusually-frank meeting last week.

The meeting, presided over by BoI secretary-general Stapon Kawitanon, was designed to discuss the political situation with Japanese investors in the electronic components field. Most of the investors' plants were located in the Nawanakon Industrial Estate and the Bang Kradi Industrial Estate in Pathum Thani.

The meeting was held to help restore the country's positive investment climate after the bloody suppression of pro-democracy protesters in May.

The Japanese electronic components manufacturers who took part in the meeting included NEC Communications System (Thailand), Cannon Hitech (Thailand), World Electronics, NMB (Thailand), Matsushita Electric Works, Sharp Appliance, Murata Electronic (Thailand), Sony Magnetic Products (Thailand), Fujitsu, Toshiba Display, Asahi Electronics Thai CRT, Sanya Semiconductor and JVC Manufacturing (Thailand).

An informed source described the meeting as the first time Japanese investors had boldly spoken out about their concerns with the political climate. In previous meetings with the BoI, the investors had seldom spoken out.

During the meeting, the investors admitted the unrest had badly affected their businesses, the source said.

The businessmen had been forced to shut down their factories for an average 2.5-3.5 days during the unrest for the safety of the employees.

They said the closure had delayed production and would affect their businesses in the future. Some said foreign orders had declined and some buyers had switched to sources in other countries.

One investor said his client in Japan had previously imported exclusively from his factory in Thailand. But when production was delayed, the client switched to

importing from other countries besides Thailand to prevent losses to his business in Japan, the source said.

At one point, Mr Stapon had become embarrassed after he thanked the investors for sending facsimiles to their parent companies in Japan to inform them of what was really happening in Thailand.

The Japanese investors told Mr Stapon it was the parent companies which had sent facsimiles telling them what was happening in Thailand, because of the government censorship of the electronic media, the source said.

The source also said the investors were less confident about the political situation in Thailand than they had been in the past. Previously, they had told their friends in Japan that any crisis in Thai politics could be solved within a short period.

But this time, the investors said it was difficult to explain the situation because there had been three political crises in less than two years.

The source said the Japanese investors complained to Mr Stapon about the frequency of the crises.

They said they felt insecure and were not confident enough to tell their friends abroad to trust what they said.

The investors also complained that their employees had become more politically aware and more aware of their working conditions and work benefits after the unrest. Demands for higher pay, better welfare and benefits had also increased.

At some factories, workers had demanded increases of up to 35 percent in their living allowances, which were impossible to pay, they claimed.

The investors had also asked the BOI chief for existing taxes to be restructured so there would be more justice in the system.

The BoI plans to invite investors from France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Taiwan for meetings soon in a bid to win back investors.

Bankers Remain Confident in Economy

*BK1606055592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Jun 92 pp 15, 24*

[Text] Japanese 'bankers' said their confidence remains in Thailand's economic stability, and will continue to extend credits to Thailand.

These were what a team of senior executives of Bangkok Bank [BBL] led by president Chatri Sophonpanih, found during a mission to Japan to restore confidence among the Japanese bankers, business-men, and investors.

Also accompanying the mission to Tokyo during June 10-14 were BBL managing director Amnuai Wirawan, and senior vice president Wichit Suraphongchai.

The mission spent four days talking with leading bankers, businessmen, and executives of 24 institutions comprising banks, insurance, securities, and trading companies.

The mission aimed to give faith and confidence to the Japanese executives in Thailand's economic and political stability, particularly after the appointment of Anan Panyarachun as prime minister.

The BBL executives met executives at an average six Japanese institutions a day.

After the meetings, they said all the Japanese executives were still confident in Thailand's economic development and growth, because of the country's good economic fundamentals.

They said Mr Anan is well known among Japanese executives and his past experience in government is accepted.

The BBL executives said they also discovered that Japan is currently facing an economic slow-down, and banks have to abide by the BIS [expansion unknown] regulations in March next year.

Besides, their banks also have problems with credits on real estates which will take years to improve. As a consequence, Japanese banks have to slow down the extension of domestic and overseas loans.

But, most leading bankers and insurers shared the same views that the extension of loans will be slowed down, particularly for the American and Europe continents.

They still are confident in the economic growth of countries in the Asian and Pacific Rim, and will retain the extension of credit and investment in these countries.

The BBL executives said further, that the Japanese financiers also affirmed that if Thailand's economic and political stability could be recovered speedily, then Japan will continue to place significant investment in Thailand, and to extend loans, particularly when the country is expected to play a more active role in rehabilitating the economies of the Indochinese countries.

Vietnam Renews Protest of Arrest of Sailors

*BK1106031192 Bangkok THE NATION in English
11 Jun 92 p A3*

[Text] Vietnam on Tuesday renewed its protests against the Thai Navy's arrests of the crew of two armed Vietnamese boats.

It said Thai authorities should release the 30 Vietnamese Navy officers as the separate arrests had taken place in Vietnamese territorial waters. The Thai Navy late last week, however, insisted that it had the right to arrest the boat crews in the incidents on March 4 and May 23 as they had violated Thai territorial waters.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung yesterday said Vietnam's request for Thai authorities to free the Vietnamese Navy personnel can be regarded as "the test" in the effort to improve fisheries cooperation between the two countries.

"Vietnam is much concerned for the two incidents as the crewmen are our Navy soldiers who were on their duties patrolling 'very deep' in Vietnamese territorial waters. I cannot accept if my soldiers would not be freed and be put on trial," the envoy said.

He said that even though the incidents are "small events" within the full context of mutual cooperation between the two countries, the release of the sailors would be a good sign in the development of bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries.

Trung said on Tuesday that he had conveyed his renewed protest to the Foreign Ministry's East Asia Director, Gen Don Pramudwinai. He said that he would deliver the protest to the authorities concerned.

The Vietnamese Embassy to Thailand last month said that the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi had called on Thai authorities to release the Vietnamese crewmen. The crewmen were military personnel patrolling off the coast of Minh Hai Province. The arrest by the Navy's Tak Bai frigate of another Vietnamese boat and 15 crewmen off Songkhla Province on May 23 had resulted in a second protest from Vietnamese authorities.

According to a VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY report on May 29, Vietnam summoned Thailand's Ambassador Suraphong Chaiyanam to lodge a protest over the Thai Navy's attack on the Vietnamese boats. In a note handed to Suraphong, Vietnam also demanded "drastic measures" to halt such incidents.

Royal Thai Fleet Commander in Chief Adm Santiphap Muming said last week that Navy personnel had the right to arrest the 15 crewmen on an armed Vietnamese boat on March 4 as the vessel was found violating Thailand's waters.

Adm Santiphap said that the armed boat apprehended off Chonburi Province had twice earlier been detected encroaching on Thai territorial waters. He said the boat sank when a gas tank exploded after a brief gunfight with the Navy frigate, adding that Vietnamese military identity cards were found on the crewmen. Its 15 crewmen have been charged with illegal entry and piracy and are being detained in Chonburi Province.

Santiphap reiterated that the boat had been armed with war weapons and was confronted in Thai territorial waters in the Gulf of Thailand.

A Naval Intelligence source, referring to the navy's May 23 arrest, on Monday said that the Tak Bai Navy frigate on that day had apprehended only one of two boats, while the other had fled. The source said that officers at the Songkhla Naval Station had several times earlier detected the two boats entering Thai territorial waters to chase Thai fishing boats.

The two boats were suspected of being a team which chased Thai trawlers, he said. He added that the owners of two Thai fishing vessels were filing complaints against the Vietnamese crewmen. He did not elaborate on the possible charges.

Fishing Disputes Given Priority

*BK1706030192 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Jun 92 p A4*

[Text] The settlement of fishing disputes with Vietnam will top the Foreign Ministry's agenda during the four-month interim tenure of newly-appointed Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, said ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek.

Sakthip said this, along with measures to restore the image of Thailand after the May 17-20 bloodshed, and the Cambodian problem, emerged as the three top priorities during Asa's first meeting with senior ministry officials after he assumed office yesterday.

Sakthip quoted Asa as telling the meeting that Thailand should urgently renew "serious and sincere" talks with Hanoi on the fishing problems.

He said the talks would include the settlement of encroachment by fishing boats of both countries, the delineation of overlapping territorial waters as well as the pending fishing agreement, which Asa himself initiated when he visited Hanoi late last year as foreign minister of the first Anan administration.

Asa was reportedly worried about a fresh row between Thailand and Vietnam over the arrest of 15 Vietnamese naval officers on March 4 when he was still foreign minister for the first time.

He was also concerned that the recent arrest of another 15 Vietnamese naval officers on May 23 by the Royal Thai Navy would undermine the confidence building process he helped initiate late last year.

Hanoi filed several protests over the arrests which it claimed took place in Vietnamese waters and called for the release of those captured.

It warned that otherwise the newly-founded cooperation, which included the pending fishery agreement would be threatened.

But Thailand remained silent as the government was too preoccupied with domestic issues.

The spokesman said Asa had instructed the officials to organize an inter-agency meeting on the issue to see whether there were good reasons to continue with legal processes against those arrested, or if they should be released before opening discussion with Vietnam.

Those arrested in the two incidents were being held separately in Chon Bu and Songkhla pending investigation of their alleged violation of Thai waters and an act of piracy.

The minister also instructed the officials to look into the matter of trade credits worth Bt 150 million which Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun pledged to Hanoi during his visit there late last year.

The first Anan cabinet approved the trade credits and instructed the Finance Ministry to take care of the matter.

Anan Vows Honest Probe Into Riot Violence

*BK1706021992 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Jun 92 pp A1*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said yesterday the government's investigation into the May 17-20 crackdown on pro-democracy protesters, and the effort to bring those responsible to account, would be handled in a straightforward way.

"I believe my credibility and my reputation will be enough guarantee," Anan said when asked how he would ensure that the committee's findings would be translated into punitive actions against those responsible. [passage omitted]

Military Figures Ignore Summons on May Violence

*BK1606094592 Hong Kong AFP in English 0914 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Text] Bangkok, June 16 (AFP)—Three top military figures in the bloody May crackdown on anti-government demonstrations here ignored Tuesday a summons by a special parliamentary committee investigating the violence that left scores of people dead.

Supreme commander Kaset Rotchananin, Army Chief General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi and former Interior Minister Anan Kalintha did not appear before the lower house committee to testify about the repression of the May 17-20 violence.

The three all sent word that it was not necessary for them to testify in person because they had already submitted documentary evidence for the committee to review.

Itsaraphong, who also is head of the Capital Security Command (CSC), said he would cooperate if the committee specifically calls CSC personnel to testify.

A spokesman said the committee would ask the three to testify in person in the near future.

Meanwhile, Itsaraphong sent the committee a thick stack of documents Tuesday.

These said that on the night of May 17, when the violence began, there were some 150 to 200 activists among the tens of thousands of demonstrators at Bangkok's Phan Fa Bridge, where the protesters confronted security personnel.

The activists carried wire cutters and thick gloves and tried to cut through the barbed wire barricade erected across the bridge to keep the demonstrators from intruding on to the grounds of the nearby Royal Palace.

Soldiers at the barricade had guns but no bullets, according to the documents.

By four a.m. on May 18, demonstrators still threatened security personnel so soldiers fired into the air to disperse them. Soldiers were ducking firebombs hurled by the demonstrators and may have fired stray bullets that injured people.

That night outside the Royal Hotel, demonstrators commandeered nine vehicles and tried to drive them into the soldiers' ranks, the documents said. The soldiers fired at the tires to stop the vehicles and, again, stray bullets may have hit some protesters.

The documents also denied that soldiers killed anyone inside the Royal Hotel or hid any corpses in the building. They said the floor was covered with blood because doctors turned the lobby into a makeshift hospital.

Non-Appearance Discussed

BK1606134692 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network
in Thai 1200 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Today, the meeting of the National Assembly commission for probing facts relating to the 17-20 May political crisis summoned Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin, General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, and Air Chief Marshal Anan Kalintha to give their versions of the incident. The three officials, however, declined to appear. Songsuk Phakkasem, the commission spokesman, reported after the meeting that the three did not appear before the commission but submitted relevant documents. In any event, the commission deemed it to be essential that the three officials give their statements in person. Colonel Winai Somphong, a commission member, has been given the task of contacting the officials to gain their cooperation.

[Begin recording] [Songsuk] In light of the failure of the three officials to appear before the commission, today the commission considered whether it should continue urging the three officials to make an appearance or go ahead with consideration of the documents which they submitted and request their appearance if additional information is necessary. That is one way of handling the matter. The commission also studied whether it should request the testimony of military personnel from other operational levels. The Army commander had said that he was ready to have the personnel who were on duty during the unrest testify to the commission.

Det Bunlong, the commission chairman, proposed to the committee to study what it should do if its request for the three officials to appear is not followed. It was resolved that it is necessary to make another request for the three officials to appear before the commission. [end recording]

Insist Suppression 'Lawful'

BK1706023792 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Jun 92 pp A1, A2

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Meanwhile, Supreme Commander Kaset Rotchananin and Army Commander in Chief Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, who refused to testify in person before a House committee investigating the bloodshed yesterday, submitted a written defence of their action, describing it as lawful and justified.

Speaking to reporters after the Cabinet meeting yesterday, the prime minister said the government investigation committee had been assigned to find out the facts and determine whether the actions taken by military leaders during the political unrest last month were appropriate and legal.

"The committee has substantial power. I will ask the committee to speed up its investigation and to try to conclude its task in two months," he said.

The investigation committee, which was set up by former acting prime minister Michai Ruchuphan, would be required to report on its progress every fortnight, Anan said.

The prime minister said two committee members, Gen Banchop Bunnak and Phairot Ningsanon, who have since been appointed defence minister and public health minister respectively, had been replaced by Gen Wichit Wichitsongkram and Banlu Siriphanit.

In separate written testimonies regarding their role in the crackdown, ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset and Gen Itsaraphong maintained their decisions which led to scores of people being killed and hundreds injured were lawful.

They had based their decisions on intelligence reports and assessments of the situation to prevent "potentially irreparable damage" to the country's principal institutions, particularly the monarchy.

"In implementing the repression, all members of the security forces tried to avoid casualties and had been instructed to keep in mind that they were dealing with fellow Thai citizens," Itsaraphong said in his statement.

The official death toll from the unrest is 52, with hundreds more wounded, after troops fired on unarmed protesters seeking the ouster of non-elected former prime minister Suchinda Kraprayun, a classmate of Kaset and Itsaraphong at Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, and constitutional reforms.

More than 700 people are still unaccounted for almost one month after the massacre. Doctors who witnessed the bloodshed in the Ratchadamnoen Avenue area and pro-democracy leaders believe the actual death toll could be much higher.

Itsaraphong, acting in his capacity as chief of the Capital Security Command, claimed that he had instructed

members of the security forces to exercise extreme self-restraint and to apply progressively violent anti-riot measures only if necessary.

But protesters and other witnesses say police did not resort to teargas, recognized as one of the most effective ways to disperse crowds.

The army chief also claimed rioters were well-organized and appeared to be well-trained in acts of sabotage.

Pro-democracy leaders have denied that the rioters were part of their movement and said they suspected that undercover members of the security forces had been "planted" in their midst.

Kaset, as chief of the Internal Security Command, said he took full responsibility for ordering troops to put down "rioting" that could have escalated into what he described as "acts of urban terrorism."

"I acted in good faith in ordering troops to quell the rioting," the supreme commander said. "I could have faced a charge of nonfeasance if I failed to act."

Explaining why they did not appear before the House committee, Kaset said he was otherwise engaged while Itsaraphong indicated he did not want to testify in person. Former interior minister Anan Kalintha did not provide a reason for his absence.

The three had been summoned by the ad hoc committee to give personal accounts of their roles during the incident.

The supreme commander and the army chief said they were prepared to further clarify their actions in writing if requested or even send military officers directly involved in the crackdown to testify.

House committee spokesman Songsuk Phakkasem, a Sammakhitham MP, said the committee insisted that Kaset, Itsaraphong and Anan testify in person. The spokesman said the committee had asked committee secretary Col Winai Somphong to personally ask the three to appear before the committee.

Prathip Ungsongtham Hata, a leader of the pro-democracy movement who was at the committee's hearing yesterday, said if the House committee could not summon the military leaders for questioning, public anger against the armed forces would intensify.

"The main question is why, unlike the practice of security forces in other countries, they (military leaders) had to use lethal force against the unarmed protestors," Prathip said. Winai said the written testimonies given by Kaset and Itsaraphong sharply contradicted what was generally accepted by the public as the truth.

"If Gen Itsaraphong really believed in the army intelligence reports to which he reacted, it means the army intelligence agency is failing," he said.

Defence Minister Banchop said also yesterday the government committee set up to find out who was responsible for the May crackdown would continue to carry out its task.

Gen Banchop said before attending a Cabinet meeting yesterday that he would wait for the results of three separate investigation committees set up by Michai, the House of Representatives and the Defence Ministry, before taking action.

Asked whether a timeframe should be set for the completion of the investigation, the defence minister said he did not expect the various committees to conclude their investigation at the same time.

Deputy Prime Ministers Assigned Duties

*BK1606152992 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5
in Thai 1230 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] The Prime Minister has issued order No. 107/2535 of the Prime Minister's Office assigning responsibilities to the deputy prime ministers.

During the cabinet meeting today, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun assigned the deputy prime ministers to oversee the administration of government agencies as follows:

Phao Sarasin, deputy prime minister police general, is to oversee and look after important agencies such as the Defense Ministry, the Interior Ministry, the National Intelligence Office, the Secretariat of the National Security Council, and the Office of the Narcotics Control Board.

Kasem Suwannakun is to oversee the Justice Ministry, the Education Ministry, the Public Health Ministry, the State University Bureau, the Office of the Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office, the Office of the Juridical Council, and the Office of the Commission on Counter-Corruption.

M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi has the duty of overseeing the Finance Ministry, the Agriculture and Cooperatives Ministry, the Communications Ministry, and the Public Relations Department.

In order No. 108/2535, the prime minister assigned duties to the ministers attached to the Prime Minister's Office as follows:

Michai Wirawaithaya, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office, is to take charge of important government agencies such as the Public Relations Department, the Technical and Economic Cooperation Department, and the Mass Communications Authority of Thailand.

Saisuri Chutikun is to take charge of the Office of the Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office and the National Statistical Office.

Deputy Samakkhi Tham Leader Favors New Elections

*BK1306052792 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 Jun 92 p A4*

[Text] Deputy Samakkhi Tham Party leader Sawat Khamprakop yesterday voiced objection to the six-party coalition's plan to petition HM [His Majesty] the King to prevent Parliament's dissolution.

Sawat, 62, also said he was against some politicians' resignation as MPs at this time, saying they should stay on to debate the policy statement to be declared by the Anan Panyarachun administration after the new government is formed.

He said he did not sign his name on Thursday when some MPs urged him to endorse the plan to block the dissolution of Parliament.

The move, initiated by Samakkhi Tham Party MP for Chaiyaphum, Santi Chaiwirattana, has reportedly been endorsed by over 100 members of the House.

"It's inappropriate to do so," said Sawat, who added that MPs should let the matter proceed according to the people's wishes. House Speaker Athit Urairat told the King that he wanted to return the power to the people, Sawat said.

The MP said it is best to hold another general election as there have been so many conflicts among MPs of different political parties.

'Democracy Fund' for Election Candidates Viewed

*BK1706041992 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Jun 92 p B1*

[Text] A group of business people and members of the Association of Government Scholars are jointly setting up the "Democracy Development Fund" to support qualified and honest people to run in the next election.

The Fund is being spearheaded by Prayun Taloengsi, chairman of the association which represents students who have won government scholarships.

In a statement released yesterday the Fund organizers said the move is not related to the one announced by the Board of Trade, the Federation of Thai Industries and the Thai Bankers Association.

The objectives of the Fund are—to promote democracy with the monarch as head of state, and to obtain a government with quality efficiency, stability and acceptable to the people.

The Fund will promote and support qualified and honest people, lacking in funds, to have the chance to become MPs. It will provide financial assistance to support private and public organizations involved in encouraging people to go out to vote for good and sincere people, and in monitoring that a fair election has been carried out, and prevent vote buying.

The Fund will support and promote supervision and collection of information of possible malpractices by MPs.

The Fund will not pay money directly to individuals nor to people related to the objectives of the fund. The Fund is not owned by anybody; it is a public service body which will promote only the cause of democracy.

The Fund will be raised from businesses and through voluntary contributions by people and other institutions and organizations supporting democracy; the contributions will have to be unconditional and not involve any favour-seeking, direct or indirect.

Donors don't have to disclose names but financial accounts will be available to the public for scrutiny. The fund is to be disbursed according to the decisions of the committee or according to the rules of the Fund.

A board of trustees will be set up to supervise the Fund which will be managed by at least five people.

Pramon Suthiwong, secretary of the Board of Trade, said yesterday that the establishment of the Fund is conceived privately and not related to the three organizations or the BoT [Board of Trade], which is an economic entity, and whose role is to promote economic development.

He said BoT is a non-political entity except under special circumstances.

Pramon voiced personal support for the proposed Fund. He added that BoT does not have sufficient money to donate to such a fund since its activity is not related to economic development.

He said BoT has informally discussed the idea among members and decided shortly to come up with recommendations for the government.

Vietnam

U.S. NGO Conference on Indochina Reported

*BK1706075092 Hanoi VNA in English 0552 GMT
17 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 17—The annual national conference of the American non-governmental organizations (NGO's) was held in New York University in Stony Brook from June 12-15 to prepare for humanitarian activities in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Present at the third conference were nearly 400 delegates of nearly 130 NGO's of the United States, and a number of NGO's from Australia, Britain, France, Canada, Norway, Denmark and Sweden.

Also present were the delegations of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and the Vietnamese ambassador at the United Nations. The Vietnamese delegation was led by Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, president of the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations.

The conference discussed the role of NGO's in general and the American NGO's in particular in helping the Indochinese countries at present and in future.

The discussions focused on concrete measures to promote the effectiveness of the assistance of NGO's especially in public health, childcare, cultural and agricultural development, and other fields.

Discussing the U.S. policy towards the Indochinese countries, the conference called on the U.S. Government to lift its embargo against Vietnam and normalize relations with it. A committee was set up to continue to collect signatures in support of this appeal.

Nam Ha Selects Candidates for Assembly Elections

BK1706090992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] According to a report by Comrade Quang Vinh, following the third round of consultations, the Nam Ha provincial fatherland front committee and its affiliated organizations unanimously selected 20 candidates to stand for the ninth National Assembly elections. Four of the candidates were nominated by the central echelon and three were women.

Along with handing in the namelist and personal records of these candidates, the Nam Ha provincial electoral committee has made arrangements for its personnel and units under its charge to improve their knowledge of electoral procedures. The provincial electoral committee and administration organizing committee have provided 2,890 electoral teams with sufficient funds, seals, ballot-boxes, and 14 kinds of necessary documents.

As a result of a recent redelineation of its administrative boundaries, Nam Ha now has five electoral units and is allowed to organize by-elections to elect five more members to the 1989-94 term for the provincial people's council.

'Considerable' Telecom Capability Increased

BK1306081792 Hanoi VNA in English 0640 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jun 13—Vietnam has been provided with another international gateway exchange in what [is] seen as a move to increase its already considerable telecommunications capability.

According to OTC International, the offshore operations and marketing arms of the Australian and Overseas Telecommunications Corporation (AOTC), Vietnam now has automatic access to destinations virtually all over the world.

The latest gateway exchange, built in Hanoi as a joint project between OTC International and Vietnam's Directorate General of Posts and Telecommunications (DGPT), was commissioned on Friday. It follows the first one installed in Ho Chi Minh City in 1991, also in cooperation with OTC International.

The Hanoi gateway is equipped with an Axe-103 modem digital exchange manufactured by Ericsson which, together with fibre optic equipment, cost almost 2.5 million US dollars.

When Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City gateways are linked to a fibre optic submarine cable, Vietnam will truly become part of the global telecommunications network, and that will come in the not-too-distant future.

Increase in Smuggling Reported, Discussed

Antiques Smuggling Detailed

BK1706072792 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 17—In the first quarter of this year alone Vietnamese customs officers discovered 1,506 cases of smuggling abroad involving over 4 billion dong (some 350,000 US dollars) worth of antiques.

Experts say that antiques from the East including those from Vietnam are drawing more and more interest from collectors. An ancient Dong Son bronze drum dating some 2,500 years ago is sold for 2 million dong (about 200 US dollars) at the place where it was dug up and 28 million dong at Haiphong Port and the price will rise manyfold once it reaches a foreign land. A glazed porcelain plate of the Ly Dynasty in the 11th century fetches 1 million Ad in Australia.

No one can tell how many real antiques Vietnam possesses. In Hanoi alone, there are some 60 state or private shops selling arts and crafts made after 1945 and imitations of antiques. The souvenir shops and galleries in some streets and hotels are said to illegally sell real antiques, mostly to foreign tourists and overseas Vietnamese.

In 1990 and 1991 customs officers at Tan Son Nhat Airport in Ho Chi Minh City found out hundreds of cases of antiques smuggling. In the first half of 1991 alone they discovered and confiscated 700 antiques including many articles taken from the ship sunk off Vietnam's coast and Phu Quoc Islands off Vietnam's coast. Smugglers came from Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, France, among them not a few diplomatic passport carriers. On July 4, 1991 foreigners were found smuggling 35 antiques including some of very high value. On January 21, 1992, a Swiss woman used an old permit to smuggle out of Vietnam 37 antiques of four Eastern countries some dating from the 12th century. Most of them are bowls, plates, cases, pots, ceramic and bronze statues.

To stop the smuggling of antiques, the Vietnamese authorities are taking a harder look at the applications to open arts and crafts shops and for permits to take art articles out of Vietnam as well as exerting stricter control at entry and exit points of the country.

Thriving Trade Viewed

*BK1606145792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Jun 92*

[Text] The NONG NGHIEP VIETNAM [Vietnam Agriculture] Journal recently carried an article by Duc Nong on illegal trading of banned and smuggled goods. The author said that since 1991 goods worth 1,500 billion dong, or 20 percent of retail sales, have been smuggled into Vietnam.

The volume of smuggled goods delivered through the southern and northwestern border areas respectively account for two-thirds and one-third of the total smuggled goods. Those who have engaged in trading the banned and smuggled goods are in diversified segments of society.

Recently, a number of overseas Vietnamese and foreigners, taking advantage of Vietnam's open door economic policy, have engaged in goods smuggling. Some have carried out their smuggling under the banner of state socioeconomic development activities. The smugglers have used legal documents, state transportation, and even state personnel to carry out their activities. Worse still is that the professional smugglers have resorted to using armed demobilized troops to guard the goods as they are being delivered.

It is noteworthy that since 1989 the Kien Giang provincial tourist corporation has smuggled goods worth \$200,000 and has evaded taxes amounting to 3 billion dong.

Many echelons of the administration in localities, however, have seriously carried out the policy against smuggling. Among them were Ho Chi Minh City's police and the military inspection force. During the past period, they monitored and arrested more than 310 smugglers and confiscated a large volume of smuggled goods.

Nevertheless, in many other localities the agencies concerned have not been able to discover and suppress the smugglers, thus smuggling is continuing and growing, and this is detrimental to our national economy and society.

The article stresses that anti-smuggling has been and is a vital task that localities, sectors, and echelons must strive to urgently and seriously carry out.

Aid From Foreign Red Cross Societies Reported

*BK1606153892 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 16—The Swiss Red Cross decided to grant 65,000 U.S. dollars as aid to the southern Province of An Giang to build a house in Long Xuyen provincial town for local orphans and malnourished children.

This is stated in a document signed recently by Mr. Michael Idman, representative of the Swiss Red Cross in Vietnam. Earlier, the Swiss Red Cross had worked out a plan to help Tinh Bien District with a quantity of

medical equipment and medicines and funds for a disaster preparedness project.

Next month, the Swiss Red Cross will continue to provide the province with 15,000 U.S. dollars to build a first-aid station and an observation post on the Vam Nao River, both in Phu An District.

A 28,000 U.S. dollar tailoring workshop funded by the Swedish Red Cross has been inaugurated in Ho Chi Minh City providing 60 jobs for Red Cross members.

From June 12-16, twelve Red Cross delegations from Britain, Denmark, Finland, Holland, Malaysia, the United States, Japan, Australia, Switzerland, Sweden, South Korea, the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies visited Ho Chi Minh City and other southern provinces to have first hand knowledge of the Red Cross movement there. During their visit they studied 51 projects the Vietnam Red Cross has worked out to call for foreign assistance in 1993.

Of the 51 projects, 18 are for health care, 11 for fund raising, 9 for natural disaster preparedness, 12 for social welfare, and one for personnel training.

Most of the delegations highly appreciated activities of the Vietnam Red Cross, which has a membership of some 2 million, and which in 1991 granted a relief aid worth 11 billion dong to all calamity stricken areas throughout the country. The Red Cross societies of Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, and Malaysia have agreed to assist a number of projects to fight storms and floods, build vocational schools and first aid stations, etc.

Le Quang Dao Receives PRC Health Delegation

*BK1106153092 Hanoi VNA in English 1526 GMT
11 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 11—Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao this afternoon received a visiting Chinese population and public health delegation led by Wang Wei, member of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, vice chairman of the Education, Science, [words indistinct] Health Committee under the congress. Ms. [words indistinct] head of the Commission for Public Health and Social Affairs of the National Assembly, and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei were present at the reception.

"Chairman Le Quang Dao spoke highly of the [words indistinct] achievement [words indistinct] the reform of economy, education, public health, culture, and science and technology of China in recent years, and stressed that Vietnam wishes to cooperate with China in those fields, thus contributing to developing the traditional friendship between the two countries. For his part, Mr. Wang Wei affirmed that the delegation's visit to Vietnam following the summit meetings between leaders of the two countries was aimed at stepping up the relations between the two legislative bodies and contributing to the development of the two countries's traditional friendship.

People's Court Delegation Visits PRC

*BK1106152992 Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT
11 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 11—A delegation of the Supreme People's Court of Vietnam led by its president, Pham Hung, has paid a visit to China. While there, the Vietnamese delegation had working sessions with a delegation of its host, the Supreme People's Court of China, led by its president, Ren Jianxin. The two sides exchanged experience in their work and discussed professional cooperation between judicial organizations of the two countries. On June 6 Qiao Shi, member of the standing committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China, received the delegation. Mr. Qiao Shi expressed his joy at the development in all fields of the two countries after their relation normalization, and his [words indistinct] the promotion of the cooperation between the two judiciaries. The Vietnamese delegation also has working sessions with the Supreme People's Procuratorate, the Ministry of Justice and the People's Courts of Beijing, Tianjin and [word indistinct] Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Nanning. Mr. Phi Hung invited Mr. Ren Jianxin to visit Vietnam.

Joint Ventures in Gold, Precious Gems Licensed

*BK1506133792 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network
in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 13 Jun 92*

[Text] To date, the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment has granted licenses to six joint ventures on exploitation and mining of gold and precious stones with foreign countries. Two of these joint ventures are under the direction of the Mineral Resources Development General Corporation of the Ministry of Heavy Industry. They are expected to work with Australia's Victory Corporation in the exploitation of gold in Quang Nam-Da Nang Province. The joint project will become operational by the end of this year.

Another licensed joint venture involves the exploitation of gold between the Bac Thai Nonferrous Metallurgy Enterprise and the Union of All-Russian Foreign Trade Organizations. The project is expected to last for seven years. The two sides are in the process of transferring capital and facilities to get ready for opening by the end of the year.

The remaining four joint ventures with Thailand, Switzerland, and Italy have already become operational.

Another French Bank To Begin Operations

*BK1506064792 Hanoi VNA in English 0544 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 15—The Banque Francaise du Commerce Exterieur (BFCE) was authorised on Friday to open a branch in Ho Chi Minh City. It will be the fifth foreign bank licensed to operate commercially in Vietnam after Banque Indosuez, Credit Lyonnaise and Banque Nationale de Paris of France, and Bangkok Bank of Thailand. It was reported that the French would invest in developing sectors of Vietnam's economy such as energy and telecommunications, in addition to fulfilling the bank's traditional role of providing trade finance. BFCE was the first foreign bank to open a representative office in Vietnam and has remained one of the most active. BFCE is currently organising a bridging loan to allow Vietnam to settle its 143 million dollar debt to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as soon as political conditions allow it. Also a consortium formed by BFCE and the other three French banks arranged and financed a 20 million dollar deal that allowed Vietnam Airlines to lease European ATR-72 airliners, the first of which was delivered last week. BFCE Vietnam representative Francis Renaud said Vietnam's economy continued to show signs of long-term promise. "Despite the difficulties, some sectors are developing... In general, things are moving in the right direction," he said.

Violence Between SRV Workers, Russians Reported

*BK1206131492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 12 Jun 92*

[Text] One man was shot to death and three others wounded when ten unidentified men broke into a dormitory in Moscow and attacked a group of Vietnamese guest workers.

According to ITAR-TASS news agency, two of the attackers were dressed as policemen and used firearms in the fight following the break-in. One of the attackers was shot dead and three Vietnamese were injured. Police were searching for the attackers, whose identities are unknown.